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Address COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. IV.---NO. 19. WEEKLY EDITION. MARCH 15, 1867.

PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL.

PUBLISHED DAILY BY THE PITTSBURGH NEWSPAPER AND PRINTING COMPANY.

OFFICE, 76 FIFTH STREET, (OPPOSITE POSTOFFICE.)

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TERMS OF THE DAILY:

Single Copy ..... 5 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier, (per week) ..... 25 Cents.
Mail Subscribers, (per year) ..... $10 00.
Address THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

THE PULPIT.

Lecture-Room Talk, Delivered by Henry Ward Beecher, in the Lecture-Room of Plymouth Church, Brooklyn.

One of the gentlemen who addressed the meeting said it seemed to him that on the Friday evening previous, Mr. Beecher, in speaking of the duty of conversation with impenitent sinners, left the impression on some minds that he did not regard it as a matter of much importance. Mr. Beecher responded as follows:

My position here is that of a teacher, and I merely that of an exhorter. I have been desirous of the errors of others in giving discriminate exhortations; and it has been a tendency of mine, therefore, to take occasion, on any truth was offered, not so much to force the thing that was obvious, and that I been correctly stated, as to add the next w, or some side view, or whatever explanas and discriminations might be needed, to aden the knowledge of Christians and make arious. It may be, as this gentleman says, t I left the impression that I undervalued privilege of personal and religious conversaon; but it certainly was not because I really undervalue it, for I put the highest value on it.

Yet there is a class of men that we often et, who might be called, not so much religus talkers as religious chatterers. I have self suffered from their inflictions. Men, re are, who, when they talk, go off like a chman's rattle, and with a sound as dry and rp. I have been in revivals of religion re the whole instruction seemed to run on uty of talking with impenitents, till it med as if the whole duty of Christians consted in hunting up sinners and running them vn with talk. Not that it was not a duty to ; but all other things were left out of view, there was not sufficient breadth and qualition given to the teaching.

low, in the first place, I do not think it to be rybody's duty to talk. I think that God's a in creation are as manifest as God's gifts he Pentecostal day, when some had the gift anguage, others the gift of interpretation, ers the gift of teaching, and others the gift exhortation. There are many persons, I pose, who in going to speak to other perns on the subject of religion, go directly across grain of their nature. And yet they have nent gifts of usefulness in other directions. not say that persons should not overcome ir repugnance to conversing with others on subject; but they should not do that to the let of those instruments that are strongest them. There are other persons who are prenently ordained in their nature and birth for versation. I remember some men now who e almost never without conversation; and I ost never remember to have heard them talk ddifyingly.

ur attention is called in Scripture to religs exercises that are for religious edification; he who finds that he has a talent to build n up by his talking, has a usefulness that is ther to be neglected nor put in a napkin. e men have not that upbuilding power of versation. Other men have, unconsciously, y have such an insight into people, they e such a sense of times and seasons, they e such a power of putting the truth in an ilight form, that one can speak it without itation, and digest it as it were. There are ordained men that are ordained of God from ir birth to be teachers in this way.

ow, many persons say, "I have all the gift of uence, and could stand up and speak, I k I would give everything in the world." I uld have all such persons understand that le if they are able to speak for edification y should do it, yet that is not the only way which a man can be useful. Because a man not talk or pray to edification publicly, it es not follow that he cannot make his contriion to the cause of God. There are ways in ich silence is most effectual, and example is st influential. Those are not the only useful in who have gifts of speaking.

here are various ways in which men may useful without prejudice to the gift of speakand without undervaluing our duty in reto this. But I want you to understand that have a duty of conversation. And I add to hat if you have no remarkable power in t direction, it does not necessarily take away n you the privilege of usefulness in the other ways of doing good. Silence; example; spirit of Christ, that hardly knows how vocalize itself, and yet that pervades the feaes, and makes itself felt in every look, the man is who is possessed by it—you will find it in judgment day that these were sowing seed the time. Not, however, that, if you can k, you should speak less, but that, if you not speak, you should not think that you not work in the Master's vineyard.

Now, a few words more on this subject. ink that an ingenious and honest young per, that speaks to another person on the subt of religion, often takes up a heavier cross, l practices a greater self-denial than many ers would in making a pilgrimage to Jerusam. I know it because I have gone through

You would not think it from the facility I ease with which I speak now, from long ctice, but it was a struggle for me when I tried to do my Christian duty. I remem- when I was first asked to lead in prayer. ll the air between heaven and me had been under the piston of a steam-engine, and crowdright down on my head. I should not have n more as though I was suffocating. I ped, literally, and said, "No sir." I felt ful, I was perfectly miserable. And n when a teacher of mine was asked next to ay, with a sort of gentle submission he said, will try," and knelt down and made a prayer, at was more than all to me. It was a day of history. He had been a poor hostler's boy Canada. Pof. Davies found him a boot-black l hostler, and in making change he showed h an aptitude for arithmetic, and set apply to estions gave tokens of such an arithmetical t, that the Professor became interested in n, and hired him for a servant. He subseently had him appointed to West Point, re he remained until he was turned away account of a Christmas spree. He was afwards my teacher. I owe much to him. He still to me a friend. Happily, he is a minister's son, who has all his life long been der Christian instruction, and he is asked to ay, and he won't; and here is a poor boy who ver had any Christian instruction in his early s, that never had any father or mother that knew anything about, and he is asked to ake a prayer, and he turns around and makes " It almost killed me. I look back without roach upon it. I do not think I did wrong. was all perfectly natural.

But the next time I went having my nerves ained up, and saying, "If they ask me to y, I will pray." And if I had to choose beween being whipped with thirty-nine lashes d making that prayer, I think I should have d "give the thirty-nine lashes." If it had n a choice between being put on bread and ter in close confinement for a month and ing that prayer, I should have said, "Give close confinement and bread and water." I fered greatly in spirit. I was acutely sensie to conscience. In some instances, perhaps, ing girls, and all of them were running ld in my mind, like so many colts in an open sture lot.

I recollect afterwards, undertaking to talk to man on the subject of religion. He was a ular engineer, and it would not have been lf so much for him to storm Fort Fisher as it s for me to confront him. I felt as though was not half as big as he was, and if he had ned on me suddenly, I should be annihied! I crept up to him cautiously, tremngly, and in a way that I am sure excited r compassion; and he treated me with consesion, yes with pity, evidently. And yet

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1867.

THE BOGUS FREE RAILROAD BILL AND ITS SUPPORTERS.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph* enters on the defense of Speaker HALL and others, who spoke against the Bogus Free Railroad Law, but—on the ground it was the best that could be obtained—voted for it. Now if the bill was not as bad as it could be—if it had not been made so at the dictation of the Pennsylvania Railroad monopoly—then there would be some show of reason in the plea. To take half a loaf when a whole one is impossible, is sometimes good policy, and a sincere man may adopt it. But in this instance there was no bread at all; only a stone—nothing else.

It is agreed on all hands that as the bill was reported by Senator LANDON, its true title would have been, a bill to *prevent* the construction of Railroads in Pennsylvania. Why, then, should any man, sincerely in favor of a Free Railroad Law, under any circumstances vote for the bill? *While, in fact, the bill was the best that could be obtained, it was as bad as it could be made.*

Doubtless some there were who perceived not the snare they were being led into by those who adopted the plea of taking the best they could get, trusting to the future to rectify mistakes. It is not such we blame for doing an intentional injury to the Free Railroad principle, though it is difficult to see how they can be justified, as legislators, in the mistake. Carry the principle into legislation as a practice; whenever a bill has been amended by its opponents so as to accomplish the opposite of what was intended, the originators of the bill would be bound to go for it, as the best they could obtain; whereas as consistent men, faithful to principle, the only course for them would be to vote against the bill as—which was the fact in this case—the worst that could be inflicted. We repeat, if a bill, as in this case, becomes so totally changed in its progress that it will defeat the very object for which it was framed, the only thing sincere supporters of the principle originally sought to be established can do, is to vote against it.

The logic of the thing, according to the subtle *Telegraph*, inspired by the astute Speaker HALL, is just this: whatever a legislator cannot successfully oppose, however bad it is, he must go for, because it is the best he can obtain. This rule incorporated into the moral and social system, as it seems to have been into the legislative at Harrisburg, would eventuate in a state of things, to successfully cope with which, would be likely to test the wisdom of the Solicitor, Speaker and his newspaper organ combined. Such wisdom—such logic—should without delay be everywhere secured by letters patent.

No amount of snuffle and cant in which the *Telegraph* may choose to indulge, can change the look of this thing. No extent of special pleading can alter the fact, that the genuine Free Railroad bill was taken to the managers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, and by them changed into a bogus bill—a bill which, should it become a law, will prevent and not facilitate the building of Railroads, and in this shape was reported by Senator LANDON, and passed through the Senate. That some sincere friends of the free principle voted for it, does not alter the facts. The public, which will, probably, look upon their act as a mistake, will not so regard the deliberate plotting of others, who, as sworn (and paid) friends of the monopoly, invented the paltry excuse of taking the best they could get, when in fact and all the time, they wanted to make it what it is—as bad as it could be.

So much of the *Telegraph's* article as deals in personalities, with us go for nothing. We are glad to have reason to know that the impression is gaining ground at Harrisburg, that public men, dealing with public questions, cannot entirely escape scrutiny. We intend to deal with them as such—and only such—and with that degree of plainness as the circumstances shall seem to warrant.

THE SUPREME JUDGESHIP.

Public attention is being steadily drawn to the important matter of filling the vacancy on the Supreme Bench of Pennsylvania, which will occur towards the close of the year by the expiration of Chief Justice WOODWARD'S term, and already several persons have been named in connection with the Union Republican nomination. In the discussion which must necessarily precede a selection, it should be distinctly understood that as at present constituted, the Supreme Court has four Judges from the East and but one from the West, and that in selecting the successor of Judge WOODWARD, the claims of the West should be constantly kept in view. Presuming, therefore, on the right of the West to present the candidate, we feel that no apology will be required of us for pressing for the Union nomination the Hon. HENRY W. WILLIAMS, LL. D., Associate Judge of the District Court of Allegheny county.

Judge WILLIAMS studied law with Hon. WALTER H. LOWRIE, late Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, and in May, 1841, was admitted to the bar in this county, at once establishing himself as an able and successful lawyer. In the fall of 1851 he was elected Associate Judge of the District Court, where he was associated with that eminent jurist, the late WALTER FORWARD, and in the fall of 1861 was without opposition re-elected to the same position.

As a lawyer, Judge WILLIAMS was eminently successful, because being in the amplest sense of the term an honest man he espoused no man's cause which his mind and conscience did not approve, and having a mind well trained in the subtleties of the law and rapid in the perception and application of facts. As a Judge his reputation is literally State-wide. His opinions are clear, logical, searching and exhaustive, and are but rarely reversed. In the discharge of his duties as Judge he brings the same incorruptible honesty and integrity for which he was noted as a lawyer, and has never, to our knowledge, been charged with unfairness, prejudice or partiality. To new practitioners he is always kind and indulgent, but merciless with respect to the sophistries often times woven by attorneys for the gratification of peculiar clients. From early youth he has been a constant and sedulous student of the bible, from whence he has undoubtedly drawn much of that wisdom, judgment and justice which characterize his legal opinions.

His education has been most liberal, not only in his native language but in the classics and in mathematics, his proficiency in the latter establishing in him habits of searching analysis and close reasoning. Delighting in the study of the law, he has always been a close student, and enjoys as the fruits of his unwearied application as profound a knowledge of the legal science as the most eminent jurist of the State. In the practice of the law at the Bar and in its dispensation on the Bench he has always regarded it as the means by which the rights of the citizen should be secured and his wrongs redressed, and this conviction has always encouraged him to acquire greater proficiency in its knowledge.

In politics Judge WILLIAMS has never been a partizan in the ordinary acceptation of the term, but has always, we believe, by his vote endeavored to secure the success of such principles as he deemed most just. He sympathized intensely with those movements of liberty and progress which have at length redeemed the nation from the foul blot of slavery, and placed us as a people on the road to high renown and perfection in freedom. Thus sympathizing, he was found from the inception to the close of the attempt of slavery at the life of the nation, among the loyal people of the North who never faltered in their devotion to the Government, or lost faith in the ultimate vindication of the supremacy of the Union. To this extent only has Judge WILLIAMS to this extent only has Judge WILLIAMS to this extent only has Judge WILLIAMS ever been connected with politics. As a citizen, merely espousing his principles and exercising his right of suffrage, he has abstained from participation in party cliques, caucuses and conventions. By this means he has kept himself free from bias and prejudice, and established one of the most important qualifications for the position, in connection with which his name has been mentioned.

In private life Judge WILLIAMS is a genial companion and an entertaining and instructive conversationalist. Thoroughly imbued with the genuine spirit of Christianity, he is liberal in his benevolence and charity.

With all these and the other things which go to make a good man, an upright citizen and an incorruptible Judge, we feel no ordinary pride that Allegheny County has such a man to offer for the exalted position of Judge of the Supreme Court. Combining such qualities, we believe him to be the strongest man in Western Pennsylvania, and that if nominated he will be triumphantly elected. That he can be nominated we feel entirely certain, as his friends will enter the canvass with him supported by the undivided strength of the party in this county and by the favor of many influential gentlemen in other parts of the State.

"A CHURLISH POLICY."

The Philadelphia *North American and Gazette*, at a late hour, after the battle has been fought and well-nigh lost, raises a note of warning against the Bogus Railroad Law, which, at the dictation of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, has passed through one branch of the Legislature and will probably go through the other. Our Philadelphia contemporary illustrates the fatality of such a law by referring to Maine, where the "churlish" individual liability principle has for years operated to prevent the construction of railroads and the development of the State. Though no State has greater natural advantages, we are assured that in consequence of the personal liability principle, which the Pennsylvania Company, (though it will be exempt itself,) is seeking to impose on on all new enterprises, the development of Maine has been ruinously retarded, until the leading minds have become actively aroused in favor of a change. On this point our Philadelphia contemporary says:

> "Capital has been discouraged from investment in Maine railroads on this account, and the enterprising native citizens, unable to find at home the means of thriving held out to them so freely elsewhere, emigrate to the West. The statistics of the census show that the increase of population in the State is in a constantly falling ratio, and that the natives of Maine in the whole territories of the republic far exceed the actual present population of the State."

To get rid of the present liability inebus, is the question that agitates Maine, and there is no doubt what will be the result; and this, too, at the very moment when Pennsylvania, with her match less interests awaiting development, is on the point of adopting that same fatal policy. We are glad that, even at this late hour, one Philadelphia journal has opened its eyes to the danger which threatens our State and that city; and we take especial pleasure in quoting the concluding remarks of the *American and Gazette*:

> "This matter deserves attention in Pennsylvania, because the liberal, manly, individual liability idea that has been so evil in its influence in Maine has been inserted in a measure called a free railroad law which has just passed our State Senate, but which in reality is intended to prevent railroads from being built, or of railway. This extraordinary enactment provides, also, that any new line organized under it shall have not less than ten thousand dollars subscribed and paid in for each mile. If such a policy as this becomes established in Pennsylvania, we need only look at Maine to see what will be the result. Already we lose annually thousands of our sons, who migrate to the West because of the limited choice of fields for enterprise and industry; and if this bill becomes a law, the logic a must increase steadily with such success. Capitalists will legislate us out of existence in time, and avoid this result by inaugurating a more generous policy."

If our cotemporary will take the trouble to ascertain the facts, it will find that in the Legislature the opponents of "a more generous policy" come from Philadelphia and the neighboring counties, marshaled by the managers of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company. Philadelphia may be loth to look the facts in the face and permit the truth to have its proper weight, but some day or other—and it will not be long—that city will cry out for help in her efforts to emancipate herself from the bondage of this Monopoly. *It is doing for her what the "churlish policy" of Maine has done for that State.* Only let the prohibitory principle once be adopted—as it will be, unless Governor GEARY prevents it—and the future of Philadelphia will be fixed—not as a growing city, the repository of the untold wealth of a great State, and a formidable competitor for the internal commerce flowing from a dozen States—but as a stand-still place, pleasant for residences and cheap, because so far as business is concerned, it will be a great city—to emigrate from.

WAGES IN EUROPE.

While the subject of wages is engaging attention among us, it may be interesting to notice the rates paid in some parts of Europe. It must, however, be borne in mind that the expense of living there is far less than in this country, although proportionately not so much less as the wages are. From one statement we infer that wages are less on the Continent than even in England, for it is stated in a letter from Belgium that the iron works there are running to their full capacity, and that large orders have been received, for locomotive and other machinery, *from England*. The wages of a skilled workman are about one dollar and a half a day, *thirteen and a half hours* being the day's work. Other workmen, weavers and spinners, receive the same wages, no stoppage being allowed for breakfast or tea. A letter from England says there is distress among the Spitalfield workers on velvets and costly silks, the wages of skilled workmen being four dollars a week, the day's work being from twelve to sixteen hours. Women, unable to do the hard work of weaving, get half men's wages, for lighter kinds of work, the same number of hours on, chenilles, velveteens, trimmings, &c. Children earn a little at light kinds of work—say three or four cents a day for making match boxes. We give as a matter of curious information, as well as to illustrate the subject of wages, the English correspondent's account of the labor of making velvet.

> "To make a single inch of velvet, the shuttle has to be thrown 180 times, 180 times the treadles have to be worked, 60 times all the ties has to be inserted, 60 times to be withdrawn, 60 times the knife has to be guided along the wire, per inch of the work, and 60 times the pressure of the chest has to be exerted on a heavy beam, which is used to compress the work. Six hundred distinct operations are thus required to make one single inch of velvet, the average payment for making which is one penny."

Of course the physical and social condition of persons so employed and so paid must be correspondingly unhappy. And even at this low rate of wages work is scarce and many are out of employment. What a striking contrast is presented in this country! We hope never to see skilled workmen or common laborers reduced to that condition here. Yet, it must be apparent to every one, that free competition between labors of the same kind here and there tends to equalization, by raising wages somewhat there and proportionately reducing them here. On a broad humanitarian view this might be a ground of gratulation, but not on the more restricted view, of national interest and prosperity. It must also be apparent to every one, that some limitation must be put upon wages in every country, since by exorbitant demands, persistently urged, all works carried on by hired labor must necessarily be stopped. Capital is invested in such works for profit, and if the entire profit is absorbed by the payment of excessive wages, the capital will seek other kinds of investment.

INVITING IMPEACHMENT.

It is evident if the President escapes impeachment it will not be because of the over-zealous performance of his duty in enforcing the Reconstruction Law. The circumstances attending the Alexandria election leave scarcely room to doubt his faithlessness to his known duty. The law was in full force—that is, it was as much a law of the land as any other; nevertheless, it was not observed; and the President's Attorney General was conveniently just so much in doubt as to give opportunity for nullifying it. That the object of the President was to get the question of the constitutionality of the law before the Supreme Court, in the belief it will be declared unconstitutional, and that he was more intent on accomplishing this than the performance of his duty, there certainly is reason to suspect.

This suspicion derives strength from the fact, although a week has elapsed, the President has done nothing to put the law in operation. General GRANT, with characteristic faithfulness to duty, promptly recommended the Military Commanders for the Districts; but the President has, as it is understood, not only rejected the recommendations, but failed to make selections of his own. He is waiting, it is said, for something to turn up. What can it be? Is it the opinion of the Court, to obtain which would take many weeks? Why does he hesitate at all, without it is he has some scheme for frustrating the ends of the law, in the hope of triumphing over Congress?

It is such a course as the President is pursuing that will make thousands who regard not with favor the general idea of impeachment, incline to it as the only remedy for the evils entailed by the rebellion and the subsequent treachery of Mr. JOHNSON. Congress, in the discharge of its duty and in its best judgment, has passed a law for the pacification of the country. It imposes certain duties on the President. If he refuse or fail to perform them, then Congress will have but one thing to do, and that is summed up in the single word, IMPEACHMENT.

CONGRESSIONAL TIPPLING.

The sale of intoxicating drinks in the Capitol at Washington has been long a cause of mortification to thousands of citizens throughout the country. And the shame is not less, when they hear of the drinking—sometimes hard drinking—that is done in committee rooms. A literal grog shop kept in the Capitol, for the express use of members of Congress, is felt to be a national disgrace. Members whose wits require such frequent jogging, or whose physical machinery needs to be so often wound up, had better be removed to some hospital for feeble minds or infirm bodies, for they cannot be proper persons to deliberate, judge and decide on great and important national interests. Besides, if the effect of stimulus on the brain does not injure legislation, it is the only business that we have ever heard of, which is done as well by persons half intoxicated as by those under the full government of their reason. In this view of the case, the substitution of the "individual" bottle in the pocket, for the common one at the "hole-in-the-wall," would be no improvement—perhaps some would drink more, buying it cheaper by the pint.

Some of our business corporations, such as Railroad and Express companies, proscribe drinking altogether in their business, allowing none of their employees to drink any intoxicating liquor. In business where life and property are at stake, this regulation commends itself to every unprejudiced mind. No traveler by cars will object to a sober engineer. But the business of Congress is more important, as involving vast interests of every kind, and surely a clear head is necessary to transact it properly. No District or State has a right to send a sot to Congress, to make laws for the United States. And no sober and intelligent citizen wishes laws to be made under the impulse of rum, whisky or brandy, or under their influence in any way. Congressmen are not understood to be so much abler and wiser than other men, that they can afford to lose part of their wits or to have them muddled with liquor, and yet have enough left to do the law making for the Union in the most approved manner. Treasury clerk has just been apprehended for stealing $88,000, and says, in his confession, that he did not take the money deliberately but under the influence of intoxicating drink. How many of our financial and political defalcations may be the consequences of the same cause? If we need sober, reliable men anywhere, it is in Congress and the public offices of the Capitol.

GETTING INTO RESPECTBLE COMPANY.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph* says: "The "Pittsburgh COMMERCIAL malignantly "and cowardly attacks Senators BIL-"LINGFELT, BROWN, of Mercer, COLE-"MAN, COWLES, DAVIS, TAYLOR, WAL-"LACE, WHITE and Speaker HALL, charging that it was their duty to have opposed "the bill at its final passage."

Those who, in the interest of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, figured the thing so as to make it appear that the friends of the genuine bill passed the Bogus Bill, are anxious to hide behind those who, from the start, were sincerely opposed to it, and seek to put upon their shoulders the weight of the responsibility. The truth is, the Bogus Bill had strength enough anyway to go through, and its fate would not have been changed, whichever way those who had opposed it, but in the end—unwisely we think—voted for it, went. But there were those who looked one way and rowed another from the beginning, and were only anxious to induce respectable company to take passage with them. In this they were too successful—far more successful, we are persuaded, than they would have been on a sober second thought.

The Bogus Bill was not passed by the votes of the Senators named above—though an attempt is now made to make it appear it was, and the attempt sufficiently displays the spirit of the Monopoly. It all the time had enough without them, and they went for it knowing that it would make no difference—a questionable policy, as we think they themselves will probably concede—but in no manner involving their integrity. The COMMERCIAL makes no attack on *them*; but it does hold up to reprobation those who, in the interest of the Monopoly professing friendship for a genuine Free Bill, really desired the success of the bogus one; and having been successful in the juggle, now attempt to hide behind true men. The thing won't work.

THE POTENT SPELL.

A person going up the Connellsville Railroad for twenty or twenty-five miles would not imagine, from anything he saw, that it was only a short road. From the amount of business done on the road and from the bustle and activity all along its route on both sides, he would suppose it to be a long road and would imagine, from what he saw, that the business of a large extent of country was crowded upon this end of a road hundreds of miles in length. When told that it was only about seventy miles long, he would immediately conclude that nothing but an insurmountable obstacle could have stopped its extension, while so pressed with business, and the occasion for its extension was so urgent and the means of accomplishing it so abundant. If he were told that the reason of the stoppage of the road at a point seventy miles distant from this great manufacturing center, and with a chasm between that and all other eastward communications, was simply an adverse vote of the Legislature of Pennsylvania, he would at once conclude that some potent spell had operated to produced such decision in such a case.

The business on that route, were it not prohibited by the Legislature, would be not only immense, but it would be almost entirely additional or new business, developing the resources of an extensive region of *our own State*, and adding millions to its valuation on the assessment rolls. But the potent spell, whatever it was, operated strongly enough to counterbalance all these public considerations, to say nothing of the local advantages to a section of the State which has never had an equal and just share in public improvements.

GOVERNMENTAL RELIEF.

The appropriation, by special law, of a million dollars for the immediate relief of people in the Southern States, is a humane measure to which no reasonable objection can be made. The direct effect of it may be to save many lives, for the suffering is credibly reported to be extensive and severe. The report from Georgia is that not less than fifty thousand people are in a state of utter destitution, with certain starvation staring them in the face, unless supplies are carried to them from more favored sections of the country. It is no time to inquire or to hesitate about the causes of their condition. To relieve them is the first step to be taken, and individual liberality should be enlisted as well as Government action for this purpose. The incidental effects of a generous movement in the North, which has already been inaugurated in some of the Eastern cities, might also be highly beneficial in counteracting the prejudices that have been sedulously inculcated among the masses of the South by their ambitious and sectional leaders. Both for the relief of suffering and for the restoration of fraternal feeling, we hope the relief measures will not be confined to two or three Eastern cities. Pittsburgh should do her part.

ADDING INSULT TO INJURY.

The most ungenerous and unjust course of which men could well be guilty, is the one pursued by the opponents of the genuine Free Railroad Bill towards those Senators who, though not satisfied with the amended bill—and which would have passed which ever way they voted—nevertheless recorded their votes for it. Standing thus recorded, an attempt is being made to make the people throughout the State believe they are satisfied with the bill as it is and that on them rests the responsibility of the failure of the genuine Free Railroad Law. It is true the circumstances give the monopolists, who spread the snare, the opportunity thus to represent the case, but it is as great a piece of injustice towards Senators WHITE, TAYLOR, BILLINGFELT and others who, with them, voted for the bill under protest—when we think they should have voted against it—as was ever perpetrated. Sincere friends of the Free principle, they are now paraded by the interested opponents of the principle as agreeing with them, and the record is being sent all over the State to prove that in reality the Free Principle had but four votes in the Senate! This is what might have been expected, and it is adding insult to the injury committed in overslaughing the Free Principle. With certain exceptions—too well known to need particularizing—those who consented to record their votes for the perverted bill as the best they could obtain, are high minded and honorable men. We think, and so on reflection they must think, they committed an error and acted on a wrong theory in voting for the bill after it had been changed; but no one that we are aware of, feels like questioning their integrity. That they should now be claimed as having abandoned the Free principle and be made to bear the responsibility of killing the Free bill—though the circumstances are such as enable the monopoly so to misrepresent them—is gross injustice and downright dishonesty.

NEW HAMPSHIRE.

Public sentiment has undergone no change in New Hampshire any more than it has in other parts of the country. It keeps right on, true to loyalty and freedom. The New Hampshire election came at a time when, in the estimation of the Democrats, circumstances favored them, and they were not without confidence they would win a victory. Although there were some local reasons to stimulate this hope, they have again failed without being able to point to anything in the result of an encouraging character. The Governor, the Congressmen, and the Legislature are Republican, and by the old vote.

The result has a real significance. Had it been different, it would have been claimed as proof that the policy of Congress was not the people's; and the President would have been able to point to it as evidence of the turning of the tide in his favor. The cherished hope has been turned to disappointment, and the result is a cheering note to the Fortieth Congress to push on in the work committed to their hands.

IT IS NOT often that people do better than they talk, but some of the Southern States are exhibiting that phenomenon just now. We think it is easily accounted for, on the ground that the talk that we hear most of—the loudest, the rowdiest, the angriest talk—comes from one set, and the doing, in obedience to the dictates of good sense and duty, comes from another and a larger class. From present appearances, the affairs of some of those States are getting into a better condition than they have been in since the rebellion began. It is true, some of the press continue to talk very badly, and occasionally bad addresses and movements are made in the right direction, notwithstanding. The action is what is needed to bring the States into a right position, and the probability is, that most of them will soon be taking the action prescribed by the law of Congress in the premise. It is almost ludicrous, to see the contortions and grimaces of some of the disgusted leaders, or rather would be leaders, of public sentiment, when they see the proposed measures adopted by the representatives of the people without their consent or counsel. The promptness and alacrity of the Virginia Legislature to call a convention is an example of their doing. The general tone and utterance of the Richmond press is an example of the talking. In some of the latter there is exhibited a temper of mind that, had it not been of the most refractory character, would have been burnt out by its own fires long ago. But it seems to be of the most tough and *lasty* material.

THE conspicuous part Governor GEARY took in the proceedings of the late State Temperance Convention, and the ready testimony he bore, as a life-time temperance man, in favor of the cause, have secured for him the applause of the friends of sobriety everywhere, and in an especial manner the thanks of the clergy. In Harrisburg the latter, in a body, have presented him with the the expression of their warm acknowledgments, testifying to the great value of his example and the weight of his influence in behalf of the cause of temperance, at a moment when habits of intoxication so widely prevail. Governor GEARY has fairly won this praise.

THE rejection of Mr. COWAN as Minister to Austria, for which Mr. JOHNSON nominated him as the best thing he could do for him, is undoubtedly the closing chapter in that gentleman's political career. The circumstances give to the act a peculiarly mortifying cast. It is not usual—indeed it is extremely rare—for the Senate to reject one so lately occupying a seat in that body. We are not certain this is not the only instance of the kind; and on the face, and at the bottom of the act, there is that which Mr. COWAN will not fail to recognize as anything but complimentary to him. What he could have been had he remained faithful he will probably find time to estimate. What he is, as the result of faithlessness to friends and principles, there is no room for a difference of opinion.

IT is one of the most hopeful and encouraging things in the condition of the Southern people, that they have learned in some measure, the utter unreliableness, not to say selfish duplicity, of their old allies in the North. They have learned this by some very mortifying experiences, and probably they now estimate the political friendship that heretofore has cost them so much, at something like its true value. This point being reached, it will require of them no great struggle to throw it overboard altogether, and their ship will be the safer and sail the better, by the relief. One further step is demanded, that is, to discard the counsels of the extravagant, crazy Radicals of the rebel school, who are ever perverting and falsifying Government measures and Northern sentiments, in order to keep up irritation and to prevent the restoration of quiet, order and peace.

BLACK BAND ORE.—The discovery of the Black Band Ore in the neighborhood of Pottsville seems to be destined to work important results in the manufacture of iron. Of course in the immediate neighborhood speculation runs high. This will measurably subside, but important and permanent benefits to manufactures and the public will be secured. The question of the presence of Black Band in Western Pennsylvania has been raised, and it is one on the solution of which important results may depend; and we may conclude that if a favorable solution be possible, we shall have it at no distant day. The locality that furnishes proof of having Black Band will derive the first benefits.

A few days ago six prisoners escaped from the Wheeling jail.

HARRISBURG.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, March 11, 1867.

HOUSE.

Senate not in session.

Connellsville Railroad Bill.

On motion of Mr. Quay, the special orders were suspended, and the Connellsville Railroad Bill made the special order for Wednesday at day, at 10½ o'clock.

Reports of Committees.

Act regulating Associate Judges of the Common Pleas of Pennsylvania.

Bills in Place.

Mr. Chadwick—Act to improve the Coal Hill road in Collins township.

To allow the borough of Sharpsburg to borrow money. Also, relating to fees of Notary Public in Allegheny county.

To allow the Youghiogheny Shaft Company to increase its capital stock.

Also, to allow the Supervisors of Collins township to levy a tax to make additional sidewalks in said township.

Mr. Colville—to incorporate the borough of South Pittsburgh.

Also, relative to State road in Allegheny and Butler counties.

Mr. Mechling—To incorporate the macadamized roads in Armstrong county.

To repeal the second section of the act relating to railroad tax in the borough of Kittanning.

Mr. Quay—To incorporate the Brady Coal and Oil Company.

Also, supplement to Ohioville Railroad Company.

Also, for the safe keeping and transfer of prisoners in Washington county.

Mr. Linton—To extend the law licensing billiard saloons to Loretto Springs.

Mr. Wachtel—Act relative to taxation of lands neglected being taxed at the triennial assessment.

Mr. Chase—Relative to fees of Sheriff in Crawford county for keeping prisoners.

Also, relative to trespass on school premises.

Also, relative to advertising the laws of the Commonwealth.

Mr. McCreary—To prevent discrimination in transportation of freight against citizens of Pennsylvania by any railroad in the Commonwealth.

Mr. Boyle—To incorporate the Ferry Bridge Company.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, March 12, 1867.

SENATE.

Reports of Committees.

Joint resolution to appoint an agent to prosecute insolvent and suspended claims against United States.

To extend the vehicle license law to the borough of Mount Washington.

To change the mode of criminal proceedings in certain cases in Indiana county.

To incorporate the Pittsburgh Transportation Company.

Bills in Place.

Mr. Connell—To authorize the Warren and Franklin Railroad Company to complete its branches, for the purpose of moving oil intended for transportation.

Mr. White—To declare the north and upper branches of Little Mahoning creek, a public highway.

Also, supplement to an act relating to lunatics and drunkards.

Mr. Connell—An act regulating the transfer of stocks and loans by trustees, and protecting transfer agents and trustees.

HOUSE.

Lawrenceville Water Works Vetoed.

The Governor's veto of the act to allow Lawrenceville to build water works, the courts having the power, was received.

Petitions Presented.

By Messrs. Chase Espy, Davis and Peters—From citizens of Crawford, Venango, Warren and Forest, to form parts of each into a new county.

Bills in Place.

Mr. Mann—To regulate the pay of members.

Mr. Wilson—To extend the law relating to liens of mechanics to engines and machinery in Venango county.

Also, creating an additional return day for processes in Venango county.

Also, to annex portions of Crawford to Venango county.

Mr. Chase—An act to provide for the erection of a new county out of parts of Crawford, Venango, Warren and Forest counties.

Mr. Day—An act to incorporate the Monongahela Railroad Company.

Mr. Gallagher—Supplement to Mount Pleasant Railroad.

Mr. Kimmell—To extend the prohibitory law to Blairsville, and townships of Burrell and East Mahoning; also to prevent licenses within two miles of Freeport.

Bills Passed.

To legalize loans made by the City of Titusville.

A large number of bills on the private calendar were passed to first reading and will be disposed of to-morrow.

Erratum.

In the report of yesterday, the act to incorporate South Pittsburgh should have read to incorporate the Cooperative Association of said place.

The Mayor's Clerk Bill.

The act authorizing the Mayor's Clerk to administer oaths passed finally. Mr. Chadwick moved to amend, by subjecting it to the consent of Councils of Pittsburgh.

Special Dispatch to Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, March 13, 1867.

SENATE.

Bills Introduced.

The following bills were passed:

Allowing the Mayor of Allegheny to serve two years.

Authorizing the sale of the Allegheny Poor Farm.

Supplement to McKeesport gas works.

Supplement to act to incorporate Pittsburgh and Arizona Mining Company.

Mr. Quay—To incorporate and Perrysville Plank Road Company to fix the rate of tolls, and transfer a portion of their road.

Act relative to the purchase of a law library for Washington county.

Relative to fees of certain officers in Beaver county.

Act giving additional powers to the Councils of Pittsburgh.

To allow the Methodist Book Concern to hold property in Pittsburgh.

Joint resolution on final adjournment, April 24.

HOUSE.

Bills in Place.

Mr. McKee read in place an act to divide the city of Pittsburgh into four police districts.

Mr. Peters—To incorporate the Western Pennsylvania Military Academy.

Also, to annex Reserve township to Allegheny city.

Mr. Chase read in place and had passed a supplement to Borough of Titusville.

Mr. Wharton offered a resolution for a Joint Committee to find out what banks and what interest was received from monies in the hands of the State Treasurer, which was laid over indefinitely.

Connellsville Railroad Case.

The special order to restore the Connellsville Railroad charter was taken up. Mr. Jenks opened the discussion, making some very great and telling points, and closed in favor of restoration that has been heard on that question.

Mr. Lee called for the previous question, but the House refused to second the call.

Mr. Mann followed in favor of the act.

Mr. Boyle spoke for an hour, going over the history of the repeal of the charter, showing clearly that the reasons were false, and that the Monongahela could be further embarrassed, and the bill should pass.

The morning hour was consumed by speeches from Jenks, Mann and Boyle. It was continued until to-morrow morning.

Public Bills Passed

The following public bills passed.

Supplement to election laws, opening polls at eight o'clock, excepting in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

Making it an offense in excluding persons from railroads on account of color. The previous question was called and sustained, the Republicans voting in favor and the Democrats against the bill. Passed to third reading.

Act to change the rate of interest. Passed to third reading.

Evening Session.

The House resumed the consideration of the Connellsville bill. Mr. Boyle again made an hour's speech, arguing that the construction of the road would not militate against Philadelphia by reason that the road would draw off trade from Pittsburgh. Trade would be increased, thus giving the Pennsylvania railroad as much as it could do, and if so, Philadelphia had no right to make other sections suffer. The State at large should not suffer. Referring to the judicial proceedings he stated that a member of the House was on the jury at the time, (Mr. Rimey, of Bradford). How after rendering a verdict under oath, could he vote against the bill. He referred to the great advantages to the State by its development by a southwestern railroad. He stated that property had risen from thirty to five hundred dollars per acre since the construction of the portion of the road to Uniontown. He denounced the policy of prohibiting railroads from passing through the State, comparing such a policy to that of the Chinese. He closed by appealing to the Legislature to pass the bill, and open up a route between the West and the capital, and strengthen the Union.

Mr. Colville followed with a few remarks. The bill is still being discussed. By agreement, there will be a final vote to-morrow.

A New City---Pay of Members---Western Pennsylvania Bills---The Pennsylvania Railroad Unlimited Bill---Allegheny County Matters---Private Calendar---The Western Pensylvania Railroad---The New License Law---The Tax on Coal.

Special Correspondence Pittsburgh Commercial.

HARRISBURG, March 12, 1867.

THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN.

The House met last evening pursuant to adjournment. Being fresh from its three days' recess, it went to work energetically, and continued in session till 12 o'clock. The special order, the bill to incorporate the city of Allentown, was taken up, bill passed, and another added to the cities of the Commonwealth. Allentown is a busy nest of iron boos —some fifteen thousand hived, on the Lehigh Valley road, in Lehigh county.

CONNELLSVILLE ROAD.

On motion of Mr. Quay, of Beaver, the Connellsville bill was made the special order for Wednesday morning, at 10½ o'clock. From what I have learned I shall be surprised if the bill is not defeated.

NICE LEGAL QUESTION.

While working on the private calendar, bill No. 665, relating to the borough of Danville, got by the gills on a question whether the county courts, which, under an act of 1863, are authorized to create townships, divide them, and alter boundary lines, from time to time, have power also to divide a borough into wards. This question was thoroughly discussed in the Senate last week. The law is settled to be that where a borough owes its creation to legislative enactment, it can only be divided into wards by special act. As Allegheny county is "heavy" on boroughs, it may be well to remember this nice distinction.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

If you think that this Legislature need ever adjourn for want of business, please take notice that about two hundred and fifty bills were reported last evening. The new calendar of March 12, upon which the House is working this forenoon, contains one hundred and eighty bills now being laid aside for a second reading. Among the bills reported last evening was one fixing the

PAY OF MEMBERS

At $1,000 for the session, exclusive of mileage, and if bills continue to multiply at the rate I have indicated, the members will have a fair opportunity to earn their money.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA BILLS REPORTED.

From the *pot pourri* of bill applications for every conceivable thing, I pick out certain matters that more immediately concern the COMMERCIAL'S family. To authorize the borough of Sharpsburg to borrow money; relating to notaries public in the county of Allegheny; authorizing the Supervisor of Collins township to levy an additional tax and make sidewalks along public highways; act to repeal second section of an act authorizing the assessment of road tax defining the number and regulating the manner of voting in Washington county, in cases where boroughs and townships vote together; to incorporate Monongahela Valley Railroad; to incorporate the South Pittsburgh Co-operative Association of Allegheny county.

HARRISBURG CHARTER.

A bill amending the charter of this city was passed last evening, which brought out the Democratic side in full force of hostile array. The city is Democratic, the county, Republican. Hertzfore, the Mayor has had control of the police. The amendment provides that hereafter the police shall be appointed jointly by the Mayor and President Judge of the county, thus securing a police force "all-and-all." Democrats contended that the county should not interfere in affairs purely municipal. Republicans replied that the county pays $7,000 a year towards city expenses, and would interfere. Several calls of the todious yeas and nays did not help the Democrats.

DISTINGUISHED ARRIVALS.

Washington county is about to commence the erection of a new iron jail, on the site of the present one, which will cost $50,000. By authority of a bill introduced last evening, a portion of the present inmates are to be boarded *ad interim*, in the Allegheny county or other neighboring jails at the *per diem* charge now allowed in those institutions. When the "innocents" from Washington county get up to your jail you will probably be reminded of their early copy book-say, "evil communications corrupt good manners."

THE UNLIMITED BILL.

The Senate this forenoon concurred in certain clerical amendments to the bill which recently went through the House, granting the Pennsylvania Central Railroad unlimited power to increase its capital stock, and issue bonds in such manner, at such times and in such amounts as it may please. Thus the Senate has repeated its approval of the bill, and this corporation, the richest and most powerful, may now snap its finger at the Pennsylvania Legislature for all time to come, and do, with impunity, just as it pleases. With this financial authority, and a general railroad law under which no corporation in the State but itself can build any considerable line of road, it will proceed rapidly to secure control of every important land railroad centering in Philadelphia, all those of importance to it, out of the State, connecting with Pennsylvania roads. *Satis verborum*, which may be elegantly rendered, "I sniff rat!"

ALLEGHENY COUNTY MATTERS ON PRIVATE CALENDAR.

Among the bills on private calendar to-day, I recite: An act to incorporate the Pittsburgh Tunnel Company; to change the place of holding elections in Jefferson township in the county of Allegheny; allowing the mercantile appraiser of Allegheny county the same fees allowed in other counties of the State; act relating to public prisons in Allegheny county; and among the objectionable bills, an act to regulate the depositing of unwholesome matter in the running streams of Allegheny county, and to provide for the better preservation of the health of the city. In objected bills, an act for the establishment of a law library in the county of Armstrong; to repeal an act for the repeal of an act changing the venue of certain actions of ejectment from Armstrong to Allegheny county.

THE WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD.

In a recent letter under the assumed title of the Freeport and Mahoning Road, I referred to a projected road which the Pennsylvania, through its Vice President, recently promised the Lawrence county delegation they would build, in case their unlimited bill should pass. The legal title of the road is as above, and I desire to be more specific in my reference to a matter of considerable importance to the Western section of the State of Butler and Lawrence. Some fifteen years ago a company was authorized to undertake the work and building a road from Freeport to Butler. By an act of the Legislature, passed April 27th, 1864, the Pennsylvania Central was authorized to "sell to" (I think it should read "buy from") the organized I think in 1858, or to any other company incorporated by this Commonwealth, and having authority to locate a road in certain counties named, that part of the road to purchase the same, so much of the Western division of the Pennsylvania Canal as remains vested in them, and for the purpose of enabling the purchasers to pay for the same, to increase their capital stock by the addition of $20,000, and to issue bonds to the amount of $1,000,000. The purchasers are authorized to change the direction of, or enlarge and locate in part or wholly anew, any portion or all of the road or any parts of the Canal from a point at or near Freeport to the cities of Allegheny or Pittsburgh as they shall deem necessary to connect their roads with the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago, or any other road entering Allegheny county. If the said Western Pennsylvania Railroad became the purchasers of the road, they were to have "either the right to change the route upon which they were originally authorized to build, and to select any other route they might deem most advisable to reach the city of Allegheny, or any of the roads of Cleveland and Mahoning, with the Atlantic and Great Western, Erie and Pittsburgh, or with any other road that is or may be located in the counties of Butler and Mercer, and to enter into, and to construct branches. But the right to use and operate the road between Freeport and Allegheny city, shall not be enjoyed until contracts shall be made with responsible parties

he lines given below are the production of ll in one of the select classical schools of ity. Without pretensions to the highest cal claims, they express good sentiments nooth and flitting verse. A very creditable ific effort:]

THE HEAVENLY CHOIR.

In the realms of heavenly light,
In the choirs, celestial bright,
Hail the rebel minister there?
Who is leading their song?

Who a golden harp shall hold,
Skilled to touch the strings of gold?
Who shall wear the tuneful lyre,
Close a blended one in the choir?
Who shall lead the glorious throng,
Praises to the Holy One?

Not the man of worldly worth
Who is charmed by the joys of earth;
Not the man of careless life,
Who will not show the noble strife
Of conquering self (with helping grace),
Nor humbly run the Christian race.

Not the man who loves to scorn
Those whom him in love to adorn,
By their lives of holiness,
And Religion they profess;

Not those who take delight in sin
Who never with their God have been
Who have not chosen the better part
Of the one so full of grace;

But the holy and the meek,
Who delight the Lord to seek;
Those with Him in prayer commune,
Asking humbly daily bread;

Who delight on earth to meet,
Gathering round the heavenly seat,
With their fellow-pilgrims here,
Treating with Him while He's near;

Who delight in using his praise,
And His holy name to raise,
High upon the swelling song,
Ready made for heaven's throng;

These shall touch the golden strings;
Vie with Gabriel while he sings,
Those shall wake the tuneful lyre,
Those shall be the Heavenly Choir;
Those shall their song of praise shall raise
Singing anthems to His praise—
Praise, praise, forever the Mighty One,
Father, Holy Ghost and Son.

Grecian Dress.

he Greeks had a great variety of sandals, s and boots; but to go barefoot never of- ed the usages of society, except on festive asic occasions; and any one who remem- with what delight he felt the first touch of soil in spring or early summer, when the came for throwing off his shoes and stock- , will agree with me in thinking that the enic usage in this respect was more natu- nd agreeable than our own. Of all the en- ents of childhood and youth in the coun- in former times, that of the soft, fresh ng of the genial earth, pressed by the un- sole of the foot, is undoubtedly one of the greatest pleasures in life. I fear, now that Greeks had various coverings for the , it was also perfectly in accordance the customs of polite society to go bare- ed.

* * * * *

ere was one striking difference between dresses of most of the other known nations ancient world and those of the Greeks Romans. Trousers, or pantaloons, were t by the Oriental nations—Medes, Per- s, Assyrians, Parthians—and by the primi- warlike tribes in Europe known to the ents, especially the Daclans and Gauls.

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n Greeks never wore them at all; nor did Romans until the time of the Emperors, who opted to introduce breeches among their cers as a means of making them forget their ent liberties. The Greek style of dress was however, precisely the same as the Roman, gh there was a general resemblance. The tion and toga of the Romans were different hape, and differently worn, though as an r garment they answered the same pur- . The materials used by the Greeks furnished partly by domestic manufacture, partly by commercial exchange. They fabrics of woolen, cotton, linen, and in later times, silk. The woolen was frequently and mixed by the women of the houses , though there were also large establish- is where this as well as the other linens manufactured to supply the market. Doriads differed somewhat from the r Greeks in their notions of propri- At Sparta, the women appeared the public games and exercises in a of undress or half dress, which shocked elinement of Athenian society. At Athens ich more becoming style prevailed, except ain during the celebration of the Panathe- e private and public entertainments, at ch, both remembered, modest women were r present. The essential parts of the lan dress remained with little change in , fashion and make, nearly the same from ner down to the latest times.

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he articles of a Grecian wardrobe may be ed under two heads—first, those drawn on, ot into; and second, thrown over the per- ; the former called by the general term ndutia and the latter *epidermatia*. The prin- l garment of the first class was the *chiton*, ch was worn next the body, like a flannel erwaistcoat. It was of linen or , in one and long, reaching to the feet, later it was of varying length, ending sometimes to the knees and some- es to the feet. Sometimes it was made two sleeves, closed, either by needle or by ps or hooks placed at intervals down arm, but frequently there was only one e or arm-hole, the garment being se- d by a brooch or pin over the other ulder, and in some of the works of art it fastened by brooches over both shoulders. e second kind of tunic called the *exomis*, was less elaborately made, being worn laboring people. Whether any garment was any time worn under or over the Grecian chiton, I am unable to learn. Socles of cork or ick were sometimes worn. The soles of he shoes, when thick and high, had ir middle layer of cork, and sometimes men's shoes were studded with nails, though his was considered a mark of rusticity. A good fit was thought as important in the Athe- nian circles as it is now. Even Socrates put on an elegant pair of shoes when he went to the famous supper at Agathon's house. Many colors were admissible—red, red brown and black. Gloves were not used, except in certain kinds of work.

The wedding dress of a gentleman consisted of a *chiton* of Milesian wool, a white *himation* half shoes, with crimson thongs and clasps of gold, and chaplet of myrtle branches and vio- lets. The bride wore embroidered sandals, adorned with emeralds, rubies and pearls, with white thongs, a necklace of gold richly set with precious stones, armlets and pearl ear-drops; her hair, fragrant with the richest perfumes of the East, was re- strained by a fillet or coronet and a chaplet of flowers; and her fingers ungloved, were re- splendent with jewels and rings. Over her simple but magnificent costume, brilliant in colors and costly in ornaments, floated the silvery tissue of the nuptial veil, like a cloud.

—Felton's Lectures on Greece.

—A cynical journalist says the reason such a number of marriages occur immediately after a great war, is that bachelors become so accus- tomed to strife that they learn to like it.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

There were some sulky growls in the House of Commons over a sum of 116,000*l.* asked for the English Commission at the Paris Exhibition. Nobody could tell what it was for or who was responsible for the expenditure. But it seems that the bill will be much larger; 200,- 000*l.*, a million of dollars, will scarcely coverit.

A Florence letter says: "The balls at the Pitti Palace are very brilliant, but by no means select. The strangest people gain admittance, and you may meet your tailor, hairdresser or corn-cutter. The foreign visitors are usually of a better class, because the cards come through the Ambassador, and he is careful whom he in- vites. But the American Ambassador has, of course, no choice. Any free and enlightened Child of the Setting Sun that chooses to apply for a card is pretty sure to set it, and the American element is largely represented in only this year." It is a safe bet that the writer of this bit of spite applied for an invitation at his Embassy and did not succeed. Of course Americans make themselves at home with the sovereigns of Europe. Who have a better right? Any year or two our colored fellow- citizens will be dancing at the Court balls of Paris and St. Petersburg, and American wool will no longer need protection.

The loss by fire in the United States during the month of January, 1867, counting only those fires which involved a loss of $20,000 and upward, amounted to $4,003,000. In February the loss was $402,000 greater, being $4,405,000.

It is a little singular that the introduction of pure water into Chicago should be so signaled by the appearance of hydrophobia to such an extent as almost to amount to an epidemic. We can account for this inopportune appear- ance of the malady only on the ground that the dogs of the city, having become accustomed to the filthy drink in which the citizens have so long delighted, have all become so prejudiced of having to satiate their thirst with a pure ar- ticle.

The Bureau county (Illinois) *Patriot* says it is the opinion of men conversant with wheat growing in that section, that all the indications are very favorable for an excellent crop of wheat during the coming summer. These con- clusions are drawn from the fact that in all probability there will be no more trouble from the bug; and the long continued steady cold weather, with snow upon the ground, has especially prepared the soil for a bountiful yield.

A manufacturer in New York city is filling an order for two thousand thimbles, at eighteen cents each, for the manager of a gift en- terprise. "No blanks! Every ticket entitles the holder to a present!"

It is reported that negotiations have been on foot for some time between agents of the Em- peror Napoleon and certain men of wealth in this country, with the sanction of our Govern- ment, for the purpose of laying an Atlantic cable between Brest and New York. It is said that the Emperor, especially, favors the plan, and will give all his influence to encourage cap- italists in France to embark in the enter- prise, especially the Daclans and Gauls.

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—A cynical journalist says the reason such a number of marriages occur immediately after a great war, is that bachelors become so accus- tomed to strife that they learn to like it.

MEXICO.

NEW ORLEANS, March 13.—Matamoras ad- vices to the 7th, say dates were received from the interior of Mexico; dated the 25th ult. At Queretaro on that day, a column under Gen- eral Escobedo, from Monterey, marched upon the position occupied by the Northern Republi- can army. The Liberal General Salez was to make a junction with Corona's army in Zelejia. General Porfiers Diaz was near Puebla, which place was occupied by the Imperialists under Galvez. It is probable that the expected battle between Maximilian and the Liberals will take place before the 5th or 10th inst. "Advices from Brazos to the 7th say Cortina is reported at Mier with a decreasing force; all Americans and foreigners, it is expected, have deserted. Report says he has only sixty-five men.

WASHINGTON, March 13.—An extract from a letter received to-day by way of New Orleans, dated Vera Cruz, March 1st, says: General Bazine arrived to-day. The Liberals under Salledo, Gomez and Rodriguez have taken Ori- zabo and Cordova. The Imperialists retreated to this city, but it is thought they will all desert before they reach Vera Cruz. They are very much afraid of the yellow fever. Gen. Alatone is about Puebla. Gen. Benavodois is three leagues from this city, with a large force. He expects to occupy Vera Cruz after abandoned by the French. Communication with the inter- ior is entirely cut off. We have no news west of Orizabn. The French are between this city and Paseo del Macha. They all expect to leave early this month. Their iron-clad fleet is still here.

NEW YORK, March 13.—Vera Cruz advices to March 2d, state that great excitement prevailed, and a strict surveillance was placed upon the approaches to the city. It was rumored the marines from the Austrian war vessels would be transferred to Fort Ulloa for the protec- tion of the city, and a sweeping conscription was expected any moment. Maximilian left his business in the hands of his council of Min- isters and took the field. The garrison at Mexico City was continually on the increase on account of alarms from guerrillas. One thousand French deserted in March from the capital to Puebla, and most of them joined the Liberals.

STATE ITEMS.

James A. Dunn is the Republican nominee for Mayor of Meadville. He is an active, enter- prising business man of that city.

Mr. George L. Dimmick, of the firm of J. S. Davis & Co., of Pithole, and an extensive ope- rator on Pithole creek, some three weeks since visited New York, and put up at one of the principal hotels. He was regular in his attend- ance at meals and lodging for ten days, when he suddenly and mysteriously disappeared, since when nothing has been heard from him. Foul play is suspected.

David Warren, while engaged in felling a tree near Titusville, on Friday, was instantly killed by a branch of the tree striking him on the neck.

The name of Hon. David Derrickson, of Meadville, is mentioned in connection with the Republican nomination for Supreme Judge of this State. Judge Derrickson is an accom- plished jurist, and would do honor to the position.

The Erie Passenger Railway Company has been organized by the election of O. Noble, Esq., President.

Orange Noble, Esq., is the People's or Pro- gressive candidate for Mayor of Erie, against John R. Cochrane, Republican.

The Armstrong *Republican* has been enlarg- ed, and is now one of the handsomest country papers published in the State. Mr. Henry, the publisher, has reason to feel proud of his paper.

The alleged murderers of an infant at Harris- burg, Pa., last October, named W. R. Krepo, and Alice Howard, have been arrested in New York, and sent to Harrisburg for trial.

Gov. Geary has signed the death warrant of August Teufel, convicted of the murder of James Wylie in Bucks county, last fall. He will be executed on the 18th of April.

A box, containing five thousand dollars worth of jewelry and other articles, was stolen from an Adams Express wagon, in Philadelphia, on Monday. It was the property of Mrs. H. C. Jarrett, of New York, who was stopping at a hotel in Philadelphia.

Progress of Education in the South.

At a recent meeting in New York, the Rev. G. S. Shener, agent of the American Tract So- ciety in the South, detailed the work done in each of six States, giving ample evidence not only of the earnestness of those engaged in the Mission, but of the eagerness for knowledge evinced by the ignorant millions in the South, both white and colored. Many portions of the Southern States were found, were as far removed from the Gospel as if their people were amid the jungles of Hindostan; there were whole districts where but two or three white people could read. In the two years past much, very much, had been done to remedy this state of things. By the exertions of this Mission alone 150,000 freedmen had been taught, and by this action was fast doing away with the pre- judices of the Southern people, who began to see for themselves that the negro not only could be taught, but was most eager to learn, and a different being afterward. Ne- groes themselves were going out as teachers among their race and working well there. All the Church organizations of the South had pas- sed resolutions in favor of the education of the freedmen. But it must be remembered how poor these Southern Churches were, and were unable to do much, however eager to co-operate with evangelizers from the North. Some of the most prominent men of the South, too, were taking part in this great scheme of education, but these alone could not do a great deal either in the immense field or labor yet untilled. Help must come from the North. The men who had spent their hundreds, nay thousands of dollars only to take place in two or three days after the first symptoms of indisposition are observable. In the localities this attacked, the flesh assumes a dark color, and a watery sensation, much like the serum of blood, settles immediately under the skin of the animal.

The Springfield, Missouri, *Patriot*, learns from most reliable persons that the fruit lands in that locality have escaped all damage from the unusually severe winter, and now promise an abundant crop.

PERSONAL.

—The husband of Harriet Prescott Spofford was in Boston when he learned that he had be- come a father, by this dispatch, dated New- berryport: "Dear father, I came to town this morning at 11 o'clock, and finding you thus- engaged, I shall be happy to be introduced to you. Truly your affectionate son, Richard Spofford Spofford."

—A harder worker than Bismarck does not sit in any European Cabinet. What with the supervision of the labors of the Convention of Plenipotentiaries; his daily attendance at the sittings of Parliament; his daily reports to the King, and his regular duties at the Foreign Office, he has hardly had a breathing spell since his return from his vacation late in the fall. The capacity of work and power of en- durance of his unifrig mind is attested by the fact, that last week he made no less than four set speeches in the houses of Parliament. Even as it is, he will have to have a period of rest, for it is definitely settled that the National Assembly will convene in the capital on the 26th. His main work will then commence.

—Mr. William Everett, son of Edward Ev- erett, inherits somewhat of the peculiar talent of his father. He made a brief but eloquent address on Tuesday evening, before the mem- bers of the New York Historical Society.

—"Artemus Ward," whose death, in Eng- land, has been announced, sailed for that country last fall with his panorama. The suc- cess that awaited him there could scarcely have been anticipated, even by the most extravagant of his friends. Almost from the moment of his arrival in London, he was one of the princi- pal "lions" of the place. The first week he spent as a regular contributor to *Punch*—a powerful medium whereby to advertise himself to the British public. He then opened his ex- hibition at Egyptian Hall, where he continued giving entertainments until prevented by the illness that resulted in his death. The London papers vied with each other in their laudations of the American humorist. Even the *Spectator* came out in a two or three column criticism of "Artemus Ward," which was in the highest degree complimentary to the Professor, and among the auspicious signs of the times the Con- gregational Organ and prayer meetings.

Resolved, 3d, That as "righteousness exalteth a nation but sin is a reproach to any people," we are not loose to pray for our rulers, and will give our in- fluence and suffrages to elevate to offices of profit and trust men of unbending moral integrity.

Signed by H. Miller, Chairman; S. McAbee, J. McCarty, W. Brown, J. Mansell, M. W. Dallas, W. Darby, M. Mck. Garr, H. A. W. Butts.

Extreme Want in the South.

General Howard states that from official sources, and confirmed by gentlemen from dif- ferent sections of the South, he estimates that 32,652 whites and 24,238 colored people will need food from some source before the next crop can relieve them. The number of rations re- quired for one month will be 170,700; for five months, the probable time required, 8,535,000. At 25 cents per ration, the estimated cost will be $2,133,750. Of this $625,000 has already been appropriated, leaving $1,508,750 to be provided. The destitute are apportioned as follows:

	Whites.	Blacks.
Virginia	2,500	2,000
North Carolina	3,000	2,000
South Carolina	1,000	1,000
Florida	600	1,000
Georgia	10,000	5,000
Alabama	1,000	1,000
Tennessee	1,852	2,038
Mississippi	1,800	900
Arkansas	300	200
Louisiana		

Since the report was drawn up a statement has been received from the Assistant Commis- sioner and the Governor of Georgia greatly ex- ceeding the amount in the table; but a larger appropriation is not recommended for Georgia before another estimate shall be made, based on a thorough inspection.

THE CENTAL SYSTEM.—The effort made at the principal grain centers of the country to estab- lish the cental system in grain measurement, does not meet with that ready acquiescence that was hoped for. At Chicago, though the re- ceipts are made out by centals, and some of the transactions on the Board are so reported, the majority of all the sales made are per bushel. The time fixed for universal adoption, however, is to-day, after which a little perseverence on the part of the trade, in connection with the advantages of the proposed change, can scarce- ly fail to make it a success.

THE CAPITAL.

Special Dispatch to the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, March 13, 1867.

Supplemental Reconstruction Bill.

The delay on the part of the Senate in con- sidering the supplemental reconstruction bill to- day, virtually puts the whole question over till next week. The Senate have agreed to urge their substitute for the House bill. This fact, together with the executive business of the Senate, which must be disposed of, puts off an adjournment until the latter part of next week.

Office Seekers at the Senate.

The crowd in the lobbies of the Senate to- day awaiting the action of the executive session was composed mostly of office-seekers and their friends, and was very great. Nothing like it was ever seen, even on the incoming of a new Administration.

Rush at the White House.

Another large crowd, composed of Senators, Representatives, politicians and office-seekers were at the White House to-day, to see the President. The President was receiving during the day, and a large portion of the visitors suc- ceeded in having an interview.

The Indian Bureau.

There being no Commissioner of Indian Af- fairs, but very little business is transacted at the Indian Bureau. The chief clerk is engaged daily in disposing of the regular business of the office, but no matters of importance are acted on.

Relief for the South.

A three hours' debate took place in the House to-day over the Senate bill to appropriate one million of dollars for the relief of destitute people in the Southern States, and the general tenor of the discussion was against it. A vote will be taken to-morrow, and the chances are against it.

The Vienna Mission.

Ex-Senator Foster, of Connecticut, and Post- master General Randall are among the names mentioned for the position of Minister to Austria.

The Military Commanders.

The President having heard from General Grant, General Sherman, General Howard and other military officers, with whom he has con- sulted as to the appointment of commanders of the five Southern Divisions, decided upon the selections to be made, and an order was issued to-day, under the law, assigning General Scho- field to the first division, General Sickles to the second, General Thomas to the third, General Ord to the fourth, and General Sheridan to the fifth division. Instructions will accompany the order, which is merely a plain assignment to the several divisions, ac- companied by a copy of the law. Instructions will be hereafter issued as necessity shall sug- gest. It is barely possible that there may here- after be some changes in these commands, and the appointment of General Thomas to the Third District may require a new appointment for his department, at least for so much of it as embraces the States of Tennessee and Kentucky.

Postmaster at Cincinnati.

The President to-day nominated E. E. Jones, of Cincinnati, to be Postmaster of that city.

THE FLOOD.

At Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, March 13.—The river at this point is higher than it has been since 1856. There are fifty-four and a half feet of water in the channel, and rising about one inch per hour. At Ripley the river raised nine inches last night. At Portsmouth five feet in twenty- four hours, and rising two inches per hour. At Wheeling there is fifteen and a half feet and rising slowly. At Marietta there is twenty feet and rising three inches per hour.

At Cairo and Mound City.

CAIRO, ILL., March 13.—The levee near Mound City broke last evening. The breach is forty feet wide and six feet deep. The citi- zens are sinking a boat in the crevasse, and do- ing all they can to prevent the inundation of the town. The levee about Cairo is intact, and believed to be capable of withstanding the flood at its maximum.

In East Tennessee.

The *Commercial's* Knoxville dispatch says it is estimated that the late flood has damaged East Tennessee to the amount of $2,000,000. Many bridges have been carried away, and on their homes in Knoxville. The damage to the farming interests was very heavy. Many of the farmers lost their houses, barns, grain and stock.

At Louisville.

LOUISVILLE, March 13.—The river has raised nine inches the last fourteen hours, and is now within four feet of the rise of 1847, and five feet of the rise of 1856, and is coming one inch per hour. The weather is cloudy and growing cold.

The Ohio Thirty Miles Wide.

CINCINNATI, March 13.—Reports from below represent great destruction of property by the flood. In many places between New Albany and Evansville the river is thirty miles wide. Thousands of cattle, sheep and hogs have been drowned, and hundreds of thousands of bush- els of grain have been lost. The country is covered with floating racks of hay, wheat and oats. Nearly the steamboat landing is under water, and boats cannot make a landing. Shawneetown is completely inundated. In the lower part of Cincinnati and Covington, hun- dreds of houses are under water.

BY THE CABLE.

Tribute Withheld.

VIENNA, March 13.—Dispatches received here state that the Viceroy of Egypt with- holds the tribute which the Sublime Porte of Turkey levied on the people of that country to meet the expenses of crushing the insurrec- tionists in Candia.

Cable Tolls.

LONDON, March 13.—The Atlantic Telegraph Company declined to further reduce the tolls.

Reduction of Bank Rate.

The banks at Amsterdam and Berlin have re- duced the rate of discount to three per cent.

The Fenians.

LONDON, Evening, March 13.—Dispatches from Dublin this evening state that Ireland is quiet. No new Fenian demonstrations are re- ported. There has been a great fall of snow in Ireland. A number of Fenians were arrested at Limerick. The prisoners while on the way to the police barracks were cheered by the peo- ple. Placards emanating from the emissaries of the I. R. B. were posted in the streets of Clonmel, forbidding the people paying rents.

Austrian Posts to be Strengthened.

VIENNA, March 13.—Emperor Francis Joseph has given orders for strengthening the Austrian posts on the Servian frontier.

Bismarck Besieged.

BERLIN, March 13.—Herr Munschausen, Premier of Hanover in the government of the late King, challenged Count von Bismarck for words uttered in debate in the German Parlia- ment.

Shipping Intelligence.

QUEENSTOWN, March 13.—The steamer China, from Boston, arrived this morning.

London Money Market.

LONDON, March 13.—Consols advanced to 94¼. Erie declined one-fourth opening at 39¾; Five-Twenties advanced to 74½. Illinois Cen- tral to 78.

LONDON, March 13, Evening.—Consols, 91¼; Erie shares, 39¾; Illinois Central, 77¾; 5-20 bonds, 74½.

Frankfort Money Market.

A dispatch from Frankfort says United States bonds closed at 77½.

Liverpool Markets.

LIVERPOOL, March 13.—Cotton opens firm, more active, advanced one-eighth. Breadstuffs generally firmer. Oats, American, 3s 2d. Pro- visions firm, generally unchanged.

LIVERPOOL, March 13, Evening.—The cotton market is quite active, the sales aggregating 10,000 bales. There was an advance in prices, which closes for middling uplands at 13¾d; Orleans 13¾d.

Breadstuffs generally quiet. Corn steady at 28s for mixed Western. The best grades of California wheat are saleable at 13s 3d per cental.

Provisions dull. Lard quiet and unchanged. Bacon 40s per cwt. for Cumberland middles. Pork 77s 8d for prime Eastern mess.

Petroleum 1s 6d per gallon for refined and 11d for spirits. Turpentine 37s 6d per cwt. for spir- its. Rosin 9s for common Wilmington. Tal- 42s 6d. Ashes 33s for pots.

Wool Growers' Convention.

The first annual meeting of the Allegheny County Wool Growers' Association was held Wednesday morning at the Court House. Owing to a misunderstanding as to the time of the meeting, and the bad condition of the roads, the attendance was not so large as had been anticipated.

Col. J. T. F. Wright, of the *Agriculturalist*, was, in the absence of the President, Hon. W. F. Johnston, called upon to preside.

Mr. J. McD. Glenn, the Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting, which were approved.

An interchange of opinion in regard to the effect of the recent Tariff on Wool, ensued, and the general opinion appeared to be that the increase would be from five to eight cents per pound on the different grades.

Several articles on the tax question were read to the meeting. The following resolutions were read and adopted:

Resolved, That we pledge ourselves, without dis- tinction to party, to support no man for State or National office who is not heartily in favor of pro- tecting American industry—agricultural and mechan- ical.

Resolved, That we will not support any paper, ag- ricultural or otherwise, that does not advocate pro- tection to American industry.

After some unimportant discussions, the meeting adjourned.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

WEDNESDAY EVENING, March 13, 1867.

No improvement is noticed in our markets. Money continues close, and the banks are ex- ceedingly particular and favor only the best names among their customers. The market is spiritless—destitute of any speculative interest, and prices are as unsettled as ever.

—The New York stock quotations to-day in- dicate lower prices. The sharp spasm that was on the market at the beginning of the present week has passed off. The *Tribune* says:

The professional speculators for an ad- vance were in February cleaned out, and have neither confidence in themselves or money to back their opinion if they had the latter. The market is also without public support, the close of speculators known as the "public" having as much as they can do to pay rents, store ex- penses, house bills and to keep from protest on their regular business. Prudent people also see that Secretary McCulloch means contraction, and has the power to carry out his opinions and are steadily getting out of debt and avoiding new engagements. "Shrinkage" of assets is and must be the order of the day, un- til the National debt is funded and specie pay- ments assured, the chances of speculators to the contrary notwithstanding. A new crop of cot- ton, grain, and provisions means lower prices of these articles at an early day, and the loss of millions of dollars by persons who assume assets will not pay more than half their debts. It is these facts which make speculations for an ad- vance extra hazards, and sure to be fatal to those who make them. In the reduction of the volume of the currency sure to be shown in 1867 all market prices must shrink, and intrin- sic values lower than at present. And hardening the decline in commodities, and in stocks espe- cially. These are now piled up in Wall street as never before, on speculation, by parties will- ing to take 7 per cent. gold interest for the use of dollars whose

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 1867.

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GOV. GEARY AND THE BOGUS FREE RAILROAD BILL.

The reports we receive from Harrisburg favor the hope that Governor GEARY will promptly veto the Bogus Free Railroad Bill. No man, unless he is prepared to question Governor GEARY's word, more than a hundred times pledged to the people—who, accepting it as sufficient, elevated him to the Chief Magistracy of the State—can entertain the shadow of a doubt of this. When General GEARY was first brought out for the place he now holds, a letter was addressed to him signed by a large number of the business men of Pittsburgh, asking him for an expression of his views in regard to Railroad legislation and whether he was in favor of a General Railroad Law. His reply was, emphatically, that he was in favor of such a law and opposed to monopoly; and he gave such pledges as satisfied not only those signing the letter but the people of the State, who shared their sentiments.

The circumstances under which this correspondence took place gave it peculiar force and significance. The legislation at the preceding session of the Legislature was marked for encroachments by the Pennsylvania Railroad monopoly—legislation too fresh in the public mind to require further reference. As the only remedy, a General Railroad Law had been proposed and voted down in the Legislature. Before going into the campaign the friends of such a law took steps to ascertain whether or not General GEARY was with them. There was no uncertainty, no disguise, but a perfect understanding what the issue was and would be until a remedy was obtained. General GEARY, as we have said, pledged himself to the friends of the proposed law—not only in the letter referred to, but on more than a hundred different occasions during the canvass—on the stump, in conversation and in private letters. He proclaimed himself and was accepted the champion of the Free Railroad principle. Although Mr. CLYMER, his opponent, made similar professions, the people took General GEARY and placed him where he can—and we doubt not will—redeem his pledges.

The bill about to be placed in the hands of Governor GEARY, although it bears the name and professes to be a Free Railroad Law, in fact and intention is the reverse of it. It is the offspring of the very monopoly from which the people have sought and Governor GEARY promised to assist them in obtaining protection; and so far from affording relief, it would only increase the burthens and hardships complained of. It would be doubting Governor GEARY's intelligence to suppose that he does not know this; and it would be impeaching his honesty to intimate that he will not redeem every pledge he has made—redeem it by promptly vetoing the bill when it comes into his hands.

SHALL PENNSYLVANIA BE DEVELOPED?

The natural wealth of Pennsylvania, her mineral treasures, is not less than that of any other State. Without being in value inferior to those of California, the minerals of this State have the superior advantage of employing a vast number of laborers in getting them into market in forms adapted to the convenience and profit of life. Our extensive manufacturing operations may be considered one department of our advantage in mineral resources, since our coal generates all the power that drives almost all the machinery. And, in fact, in this aspect of the matter, the manufacturing facilities and results in other States, as well as the extensive steam marine commerce of the country, are but a contribution of Pennsylvania mineral wealth. Seal up our mines, or, which would be equivalent, annihilate our railroad and canal system of transportation, and nearly all this business and labor and wealth would be lost to the State and the country.

And this leads to another observation. The mineral wealth of Pennsylvania, on which the State and the country so much depend, is not restricted to one locality, nor is it distributed along one straight line. It may be said to underlie the whole State. This is particularly true of the one which is most extensive and important—the coal. And hence we derive one of our strongest arguments for a *free system of railroad construction*, so that whenever capitalists, the people combined, or the owners of coal lands, wish to make a road to connect new mines with existing roads and the markets, they may not be hindered, by existing corporations, either from obtaining legal charters, from constructing their work in peace, or from forming such connections as their business may require. Nothing less than such a general railroad system, authorized by law, can secure or promote to its full extent the development of the vast wealth of the State. And every impediment thrown in the way of obtaining such a system, is so much done to keep back the prosperity of the State. It *is* natural that such efforts should be made by existing corporations, for it is simply guarding their monopoly of advantages which ought to be free to all who are able or disposed to compete for them in lawful ways. There is no good reason for monopoly, when it is maintained not only at the loss of citizens who wish to employ capital in railroads, but also at the great damage of large sections of country which desire to have their latent wealth made available by the construction of new roads to their mines.

CONFUSED IDENTITY.

It is said that people do sometimes forget themselves and lose their identity. PETER MARTIN was once in this condition. Having been thrown into a state of profound oblivion by two or three drams too much, after a long sleep he awoke sufficiently to feel the necessity of establishing in his own mind his identity. With a nebulous remembrance of having had a horse in charge, whereas he now had in his hand only a bridle, he stated—rapidly and cloudily of course—the argument pro and con somewhat syllogistically thus, "If I be PETER MARTIN I've lost a horse, and if I be not PETER MARTIN I've found a bridle."

Had Mr. JEFFERSON DAVIS, at the time of his being divested of his two usurpations, the Confederacy and the crinoline, been placed under the soporific influence of some merciful anodyne that would have at once closed his eyes and quieted his conscience, and had he to-day waked up to consciousness and knowledge, some shock to his feeling of identity, some hesitancy in his self recognition, could scarcely fail to be experienced by him. A lost confederacy, a constituency utterly ruined, a name blasted with infamy, a person regarded by thousands of widows and scores of thousands of orphans, as the cause of their sorrows—all this rushing upon the mind at once might well unsettle his convictions of his own identity. And what his further and more deliberate observations would reveal, would not readily solve the doubt hovering on his restored reason. What! I and my associates in the grand confederacy disfranchised? What! Negroes under Constitutional Government, and voting for constitutions themselves? What! Southern men, too, and Southern Legislatures favoring the detestable progress?

Mr. DAVIS has not been asleep for the past two years. Mr. DAVIS has been a close observer of the changes that those two years have wrought in the country and the times. He may not relish the overthrow of slavery, his favorite institution, he may not admire the prevalence of freedom. But he is not favored so far as to dissever his own agency from these results. He must see, and with his mind see very clearly, the connection between his own towering and selfish ambition, and the ruin and wretchedness that cover his own beloved section and his deluded constituency who mourn among its desolations. His opinions may be imagined, but his feelings, at the retrospect, it would be difficult and terrible to conceive of.

THE NEW ALLEGHENY COUNTY LICENSE LAW AND THE NEW YORK LAW.

The distinction between the proposed license law for Allegheny county and the New York law, the main features of which it is said to embrace in some essential particulars, is very marked. The underlying principal of the New York law is independence on the part of the License Board of the influence which those immediately interested in obtaining licenses are supposed to exert. With this view the Board of Health, appointed by the Governor, are the Board of License, and the practical enforcement of the law is committed to the Police Commissioners, who also are appointed by the Governor. This arrangement removes almost wholly the question of granting or denying licenses from the corner grocery influence which, in such matters, sometimes combines to obtain the control of the machinery of the law. Neither are the Board of Health nor the Police Commissioners the creatures of the liquor men, as in New York they would most likely be, were they elective officers. The granting of licenses and the enforcement of the law in no manner hinges on local politics and is as far as possible removed from that kind of influence.

The proposed law for Allegheny county constitutes the Board of County Commissioners the License Board, and the local police force are practically entrusted with the enforcement of the law. The Commissioners are three in number, one of whom is chosen at every general election; and the Police are appointed by the Mayor, who is chosen every two years. While the New York system removes the question of license as far as possible from political or other embarassing influence, the proposed law for Allegheny county leaves the working of it liable to such control. Were the Commissioners for granting licenses appointed by the Governor—even though no change were made in regard to the police—something like the New York law would be obtained. As it is, the distinction is marked, and may be found to be material.

THE BOGUS FREE RAILROAD LAW

While we are not disappointed at the passage of the bogus Free Railroad Law through the Senate, we are disappointed that so many Senators who opposed it as it came from the hands of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, should have voted for it on the ground it was the best they could get. We give them credit of knowing that while it may be entirely true that better could not be obtained, worse there could not well be. We conceive it was their duty to oppose the bill, even though unsuccessfully, to the end, as a bill designed to prevent and not facilitate the building of Railroads in Pennsylvania. We understand it was so denounced very generally by them; and on what principle, as sincere friends of the Free System, they could vote for the bill, it is extremely difficult to perceive. Such a course may not be additional proof of the power of the Monopoly, but it certainly looks very much like it. It would have passed without their vote and why they should have added them as so much extra, is one of the marvels of Harrisburg Legislation.

In spite of this vote—in spite of the lame excuse—this fact remains: the Republican party, clothed with the responsibility, and the Democratic party, seeking to obtain it, pledged themselves to the people to give them a true Free Railroad Law, which should emancipate the State from the power of an overshadowing Monopoly. Instead of passing such law, they took the bill framed in fulfillment of the promise, to the managers of the Monopoly, by whom its character was totally changed, and the Senate has passed it. It may or may not be a significant fact in this connection, but it is a fact that the principal manager of the Monopoly was in Harrisburg at the time the vote was taken.

The vote on the passage of the bill in the Senate was as follows:

AYES—Messrs. Billingfelt, Brown (Mercer,) Burnett, Coleman, Connell, Cowles, Davis, Donovan, Glatz, Haines, Jackson, James, Landon, McCandless, McConaughy, Randall, Ridgway, Royer, Small, Shoemaker, Stutzman, Taylor, Wallace, Walls, White, Worthington and Hall, Speaker.

NAYS—Messrs. Bigham and Graham, of Allegheny, Lowry, of Erie, and Brown, of Lawrence.

ABSENT—Messrs. Fisher and Searight.

Speaker HALL, of course, voted for the bill, although only a week ago he said it would be useless to expect railroads would be built under it. Under his leadership, the Pennsylvania Railway Company have effectually triumphed over the people again. He is one of the Solicitors for the Company, and has made some progress in the art of looking one way while rowing another, although he is by no means an expert at it.

Senators BIGHAM, GRAHAM, LOWRY and BROWN, will be held in grateful remembrance for their faithfulness to principle, and the welfare of the State. Their ranks, though few in number now, will grow to be a vast majority.

GENERAL BUTLER'S PLAN OF IMPEACHMENT.

In WILKES's *Spirit of the Times*, for this week, we have what, from the known relations of the writer—Mr. GEORGE WILKES—and General BUTLER, no doubt may be regarded as the central idea of the General's plan for disposing of President JOHNSON by proceedings looking to impeachment. It is suggested by Mr. WILKES that the Judiciary Committee, who, he does not doubt, "would have no difficulty in reporting affirmatively" on points looking to impeachment, should do so "forthwith," "and thus," says the writer, "the "Committee, by this simple process, would "acquit itself of its responsibilities, and "transfer the sword of DAMOCLES to the "hands of the Senate. An indictment, "embracing the above charges, and re"ferring to the proofs, by title, as of being "by record, would be very easily drawn. "All the responsibilities which would follow would then devolve upon the Senate. "They could try the President when they "please, or they can hold the ordeal *in "terrorem* as long as they please."

This plan had at least the merit of expeditiousness; but it did not commend itself to the Republican Members of Congress, and so it didn't work. Nor did the proposition of a Select Committee, with General BUTLER at the head, commend itself to them; therefore the Judiciary Committee was continued in charge of the question of impeachment. It would seem, from these proceedings, that Congress is not likely to make a forced march on the subject.

THERE is still considerable disorder in Kentucky, amounting in some counties almost to a guerrilla, bushwhacking or bandit warfare on Union people. A message of the Governor, on the subject, some time since, represented it as requiring legal notice and suppression. The politics of that unfortunate State, too, have assumed a wild and reckless character—we mean, of course, the Democratic politics. There is also a political agitation kept up by some of those ecclesiastical partisans of the rebellion, whose fears kept them reputably silent, or at a safe distance from the country, while the war was going on. All these causes combined, and logically connected as they are, make some localities in that State very uncomfortable for Union men. But it is hoped that these things will have the happy effect of uniting all elements of good citizenship into one determined Republican organization, that shall regenerate that whole Commonwealth.

EX-SENATOR COWAN—AN ALLEGED BARGAIN.

The following from the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Inquirer*, may explain the ground of the expectations which the friends of ex-Senator COWAN have lately expressed of his confirmation by the Senate:

"The President, to-day, nominated ex-Senator Cowan to be Minister to Austria. It is asserted by his friends that this is in pursuance of the bargain made by some Republicans to have certain minor offices filled to suit them, and in consideration of which they were to have Mr. Cowan confirmed. Notwithstanding it is hardly likely that he will get through, as in the canvass of the old Senate, made by Mr. Corode, a large majority of Republicans declared their intention of voting against Mr. Cowan under any circumstances, while Messrs. Foster, Harris and Nesmith, who were for him before, are not Senators now, and as Mr Cameron, who has been sent to take Mr. Cowan's place is opposed to him, it is not probable any attempt will be made to confirm the late Senator from Pennsylvania."

A SUIT, the first of the kind, has been brought in a Washington city court, to recover a piece of property that had been confiscated by regular legal process. A gentleman who diversified the monotony of city life by a detour into secessiondom, in the guise and calling of a rebel against the United States Government, is the plaintiff in the case. During his absence in that character and vocation, his interest in a piece of property within the jurisdiction of the Union was, under a law to that effect, transferred to a loyal citizen, for a consideration. The returning prodigal, greedy as well as hungry, and more bold than repentant, not satisfied to save his forfeit neck, claims also the possession of his confiscated property. Should the court decide that as a free citizen of the District he had a right to indulge himself with a four years recreation of the kind referred to, it will undoubtedly decide his claim in his favor. And then all claims of a similar character will be pressed, in hope of a similar result, and the auspices of rebellion will be greatly brightened.

THE Somerset *Herald*, in a well considered article on Railroad Legislation at Harrisburg, expresses the opinion that no Free Railroad Law will be obtained this session. "We are satisfied," it says, "that the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is the sole preventing cause," and it sees no remedy but the taking of the monopoly by the throat. This is becoming the crystallized sentiment of the people; and if the Pennsylvania Company were not blind and desperate it would perceive that some day or other a heavy penalty will be exacted from it.

A ROYAL VICTIM.—Even kings are swindled sometimes. There is a rumor afloat that *il re galantuomo*, Victor Emanuel, has fallen a victim to the art or artifice of an unscrupulous woman. It seems that for some years he has been living *en famille* with a Piedmontese lady, by whom he has been presented with three pledges of affection. Some time ago he received a telegram from his lady's confessor, telling him, if he wished to see her once more, he must not delay, as she was in *extremis*. The good natured monarch hastened to her bedside, when she told him that she would die happy if they were only legally married. Believing her last moments almost come he consented to have the ceremony performed and she became his wife. A few weeks after she appeared at Florence in excellent health and fully prepared to claim her rights. A compromise had to be arranged.

RAMPANT RITUALISM.—Some of the Episcopal clergy of New York are carrying the ritualistic ceremonial, revived by Dr. Pusey and Professor Newman, in the English Church, a little too far. Even the "Broads" as well as the "Evangelicals" are taking the alarm. The curate of St. Albans, for instance, celebrates Lent by rolling his chancel in black, almost having a midnight service and the chanting of a hymn, rehearsals whereof forcibly remind those who have heard them, of the *Tenebræ*. This is so near an approach to Rome that it would trouble a casuist to tell how many steps further it would be necessary to go to outstrip the dividing line.

"SI JE MEURS!"—Spite of A. Johnson, of Bourbonized Democracy, of ex-rebel contumacy and reconstructed obstructionism, the world does move. Even in Kentucky—apparant to rivalry with South Carolina in the matter of political heresy—there are evidences of mundane revolution that cannot be mistaken or ignored. Thus, for instance, there has just been established at Maysville a loyal weekly paper called *The Republican;* while, for another and still more striking example, we yesterday saw the first issue of a paper in Kentucky, a genuine organ of the freedmen, edited by the Rev. Dr. Butler, J. P. Samson and P. H. Murray, all of whom are of mingled African and Caucasian descent.

CHANGE OF FANCY.—It is singular to notice the intense disgust of the Southern people at the bare thought of a practice that they once indulged in freely and with apparent delight. In a state of freedom the colored race, formerly considered so physically attractive, has become physically repulsive and abhorrent. It is really amusing to note the horror with which the Mobile *Times* speaks of a Connecticut schoolmaster down there having the black eye of his grown up female scholars." We will venture to assert that this editorial fellow wouldn't hesitate at indulgence in the same kind of osculatory exercise, if, instead of being "scholars" these same females had been likely house servants, purchaseable at two thousand dollars or so apiece.

FOGLER SENTENCED TO BE HUNG.—Fogler, one of the men engaged in the Dinsmore murder, near Washington, Pennsylvania, has been sentenced to be hung. He received the sentence of death with an unmoved countenance. Immediately after the passage of the sentence, James R. Ruth, Esq., appeared before the Court and asked for a record, and gave notice that he would carry Fogler's case to the Supreme Court on a writ of error.

A FRUITFUL TOPIC.—A person named Preserved Gage sued Miss Lucy Rushton—the lovely and accomplished female, but by no means brilliant manageress, who turned Dr. Osgood's Chapel into the New York Theatre—for cash due on work and labor done. He got a verdict, and that is about all he will get. He must have been a green-Gage—we don't know how well "preserved"—to have ever trusted her at all.

SUDDEN COLLAPSE.—The partnership between the Blair faction and the Claybank crowd in Missouri has been dissolved. It was not the Claybanks that caved in, but the Blairs that were blown off as a useless incumbrance. It was discovered that they were all "blare"—sound and fury, signifying nothing.

THE PLACE FOR THEM.—There has been presented to the Wisconsin Legislature a petition for the enactment of a law prohibiting the holding of courts at places in which liquor is sold. We should imagine those were the very places in which courts were most wanted.

ANOTHER GIFT BY MR PEABODY.—Mr. Geo. Peabody has made a gift of fifteen thousand dollars to the Newburyport Public Library, the income to be expended in extending its usefulness.

GOING FOR GOLD.—The Legislature of Kentucky, for the sake of showing the estimation in which it holds our national currency, has passed an act requiring that members of the State General Assembly be paid in gold.

HON. JOHN A. BINGHAM having observed that his name was used in connection with the Governorship of Ohio, writes the Steubenville *Herald:* "Although a nomination for that high position, by a Union Convention, would be an honor of which any man might be proud, I deem it but just to say, that I have not authorized my name to be used in that connection, neither do I desire to be considered a candidate for the position under any circumstances."

THE SEAT OF EMPIRE.—The Washington correspondent of the New York *Commercial Advertiser* records a fact in this way: The Western members of the present House have organized it, discarding Mr. Goodenow, of New York, the the doorkeeper for some years past, to put in an Illinoisian. A few years more, and New England will be effectually snubbed by the States which were founded by Yankees, and which have been built up by Yankee capital.

LOSS OF LIFE AND PROPERTY ON THE LAKES IN 1866.—The Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser* contains a complete list of the disasters which occurred on our lakes and tributary rivers during the year 1866. The aggregate of disasters numbers seven hundred and thirty four, and involved the destruction of property to the amount of $1,647,428.

Rumored that Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe, will shortly leave for Florida, where she will reside until May, and that the residence of the Stowe family in Hartford, Conn., is to be sold.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

A new magazine, bearing the monthly title, *Twelve Times a Year*, published in Louisville by F. I. Dibble, made its debut into the world of letters on Wednesday.

The Provincial Telegraph line has been purchased by the Montreal Company, which now controls the entire telegraph business through Canada.

The Louisville *Courier* having spoken of the Frankfort *Commonwealth* as the "principal organ of the negro equality party in Kentucky," the latter pungently responds: "Down through the vile and corrupt passages of its villainous throat as low as to its black and traitorous heart, the Louisville *Courier*, or whoever else applies to the Union party of Kentucky the term of 'negro equality,' lies." We earnestly trust the *Commonwealth* felt better after spitting that out. It must have been worse to have in the throat than the usual manifestation of what we call the Pittsburgh *grippe*.

A brother and sister who had not met for fifty-five years, lately had a reunion dinner near New London, Butler county, Ohio. The knives and forks used on the occasion were forty-eight years old, the chairs fifty years of age; the tea-cups and saucers, plates, &c., thirty years old. The turkeys were carved with a knife forty-eight years of age; but the fowls themselves, we believe, were not corresponding ly venerable.

Among the novelties of the present London season will be Evangelical drawing-rooms. These will have to be offset with Ritualistic matinees, or something of the sort.

The Charleston *News* alludes to the military government project as "brigadier generalizing the South." The officers appointed ought to do something more than "generalize." Will they not be all "details" from the military establishment?

The Supreme Court of Kentucky has decided against the constitutionality of the State's assuming the war debt of the towns. Kentucky all over.

A biblical opera on the history of Saul is announced in Germany.

The Charlottesville, Virginia, *Chronicle*, makes it a matter of complaint that Congress has shed no blood.

Five of the Democratic candidates for Congress in Connecticut are worth $2,350,000. They may possess that amount of money, but it is their acts only that will show how much they are worth—as national legislators.

The London *Engineer* does not think the Atlantic cables will be serviceable much longer: It says: "How long the Atlantic cables will last before an accident occurs is a matter of some speculation. We shall be astonished if two years pass without an interruption."

The salary of the register of the Kentucky land office has been reduced to $1,800 per annum; we don't know who this register is, but we feel refreshed at seeing a case of reduction of salaries praise instead of fees, in these times when the mania for stipendiary increase is so prevalent.

At the late town meeting in Nantucket there were present three hundred and seventy-five people over seventy years old, seventy-five who were over eighty, and nine who were over ninety. Nantucket must be the place where people live till dry up and are blown away.

A new Metropolitan Police bill has passed to a second reading in the Tennessee Legislature. It is creating a panic among the Memphis rebels. Webster defines "panic" as "terror inspired by a trifling cause or misapprehension of danger." Where the bill is likely to be discussed.

The Maine Legislature has adjourned, after a session of two months. Its members get $150 per session, be it long or short. They haven't got any Central Railroad in Maine either.

It is more than likely that the formidable vessel of war, the Dunderberg, will fall into the hands of a foreign power. Well, what of it? We can build half a dozen other and probably better Dunderbergs before any likelihood of our battling those nations occurs.

A man in Cleveland advertises a half interest in a well regulated laying hen for sale, assigning as a reason his utter inability to spend all the profits.

These are hard times for Boston. More people are now out of employment in that city than at any previous time for many years; many manufacturing establishments are idle and all building enterprises are at a stand still.

The full corporation of the Wamsutta mills, at New Bedford, Mass., has voted, under no circumstances, to have the mills run less than eleven hours per day, and have at work at present about 100 of their usual force 1,100 operatives.

A remarkable, and, perhaps, unparalleled coincidence is recorded in the civil registry of Barsur-Aube, in France. In 1866 there were inscribed there one hundred and six births, one hundred and six deaths, one hundred and six marriages.

A German iron master will send to the Paris Exposition a house made entirely of iron, at a cost of $5,000. It can be taken to pieces, and is easily heated, for the walls are hollow, and communicated with a furnace or a hot water chamber.

At the close of the year 1866, the Society of Jesus numbered 8,167 members, an increase of 215 since 1865. They are distributed among twenty Provinces, of which Italy contains 4, France 4, Germany 3, Spain 3, and the United States 2.

A contested will case at Newington, N. H., has been so long in court that the lawyers' bills have consumed the entere estate in controversy. The principal heirs offered to run off and quarrelling about, the case has been withdrawn from litigation. The old story of the oyster.

In New York on Friday Justice Leonard, of the Supreme Court, decided that United States legal tender notes are in law money, and as such are liable to taxation.

The advertisement of postoffice lettings in the South has been given to the *Phœnix*, a paper published at Columbia, South Carolina, which distinguished itself by putting its columns in mourning on the anniversary of Lee's surrender. We suppose the *Phœnix* got that indispensable "Democratic indorsement."

The last foreign arrival brings from Spain the following item of intelligence: "The Governor of Castile proclaims that persons who edit, write or print papers against religion, the queen or the government, shall be punished by death." That is the most effectual way we know of to choke off public discussion.

One day last week an old man of about sixty years of age, named Philo Woods, arrived in Louisville from Henryville, Indiana, in search of his runaway wife, Nancy Woods, aged fifty-eight, who had eloped from him about two weeks previous, taking with her his hired boy, Stephen Wilson, aged nineteen, and all the furniture and portable property in his house. "Philo" should add "Sophia" to his name and let such a wife "gang her ain gait."

An enthusiastic Millerite at Providence, R. I., who fancied that the millenium was near at hand, arrayed himself, on Friday night, in a white garment, remarkable only for its scantiness, and, with a red candle and white flag, stationed himself in the window of his hotel, exhorting the passers-by, and waiting for his translation. He was twice interrupted by the police, and finally taken to the insane asylum.

The New York *Tribune* is not pleased with the new Academy of Music just inaugurated in that city. It says: "We trust the reader will believe we speak the words of soberness and charity when we say that the interior of the Opera House is on a scale of unparralleled cheapness, and that all the resources or stinginess have been exhausted to gratify the taste for small potatoes and few to the measure." Whereupon Philadelphia, Cincinnati and Chicago send up journailistic peans of self-glorification.

The Elmwood, Illinois, *Observer* gives an account of a singular accident. It says: "A boy of Mr. Gormley's, in Elba, Knox county, was out rabbit hunting with a large dog. The dog started a rabbit which ran towards the boy and between his legs. The dog coming after, with great force, struck his head against the boy's thigh, and broke the thigh bone square in the center." That paragraph, though very well cooked, should be taken with several grains of salt.

It may not be generally known, but it is a fact, that the removal of any one who has died in France costs a small fortune. The first thing is a fee of $800 for permission to remove; add to this the relatives must entirely refurnish the apartment in which a person has died, and it costs another $700 to take the body by rail as far as England, every town through which the body travels claiming other fees. It appears a cruel state of things, as it quite precludes the pleasure of mourning the dead if the relatives have only moderate means.

The Vigilance Committee at Mansfield, Ohio, are still engaged in the work of hunting blacklegs and thieves from the place. Fifteen or twenty have been escorted to the cars, and many more have departed without waiting for the attentions of the regulators. The streets are patrolled nightly, and the depots watched, to prevent the return of any of these people.

The Sandusky *Register* says: "A friend of ours, who met Mr. Parton while he was 'doing' Cincinnati, learned from his conversation that he had a very high opinion of Chicago enterprise and rapid growth, that he was astonished at the substantial manner in which Cincinnati is built up, and at the abounding evidence of solid wealth he saw in Ohio's metropolis; but he reserved his highest praise and greatest expectations for that future metropolis of the Mississippi Valley and New York of the West, St. Louis. Mr. Parton thinks that the location of St. Louis can not fail to make it eclipse all Western cities and become the wonder of the occident. He is inclined to think that Cincinnati has about got her growth, although she will always be wealthy and reasonably prosperous."

The Brazilian Emigration agent has chartered the steamer Marlposa, which leaves New Orleans March 9th, to bring to that port 160 Texans, who were recently wrecked on the coast of Cuba, near Havana. They will reach that port on the 18th, in time to take the Guiding Star to Rio Janeiro.

The Legislature of Wisconsin having refused to grant permission for the construction of a bridge across the Mississippi at Winona, Minn., the Legislature of Minnesota has refused to grant permission for the construction of a bridge across the river at La Crosse, Wis. This is the rule of "tit for tat."

According to a report of the German Emigrant Society, two thousand seven hundred and twenty-eight of the five thousand six hundred and ninety-five emigrants who landed at New York in February were Germans. Last year the number of Germans arriving during the same period was two thousand eight hundred and twenty-three, while in the corresponding period of the year previous it was only five hundred and forty-seven. The whole number of German emigrants who have landed at New York since January 1 is six thousand seven hundred and nineteen.

The Governor of Illinois has signed the bill making eight hours a legal day's work in the State, in absence of contracts to the contrary. It goes into effect immediately.

The appropriations made at the last session of Congress foot up $144,793,000. This does not include sums given by general bills in which specific appropriations are not named.

The omission, in the Emperor Napoleon's speech to the Chamber, of any reference to the Great Exposition, is attributed by the Paris *Presse*, a journal of which Emile de Girardin is the principal editor, to his Majesty's conviction that the affair will prove a gigantic failure. The *Presse* does not like the external of the Exhibition building, and is still less favorably impressed with the arrangement of the interior. The fact that M. de Girardin has just been fined five thousand francs for an article politically hostile to the Emperor may or may not have something to do with this unfavorable reference to a project on the success of which Napoleon is known to have set his heart.

PERSONAL.

—Wilkie Collins, the novelist, is said to be in a hopeless state of consumption.

—Laura Keene has not added to her reputation by her humble attitude in the Southern papers that she was an enemy of Wilkes Booth.

—General Thomas, while expressing his gratitude to his friends in Tennessee, peremptorily declines to have his name associated with the Presidency.

—A Paris critic declares that Thackeray is the greatest novelist who ever wrote in any language except French. This is about as near to unqualified compliment as that most hidebound of cockneies, a Parisian literary man, can come. There never was but one French writer of fiction who could be compared with Thackeray, and that was Henorie de Balzac.

—Michelet, has begun the history of Louis XVI's reign, which will complete his History of France.

—Massachusetts contributes a pupil to Gen. Lee's college, in Virginia. He is the son of a hardshell old Democratic lawyer near Boston.

—Alphonse Karr is now regarded as the wittiest man in Paris, and the vainest, too. Excessive praise has nearly turned the poor fellow's head.

—It is currently reported that Sydney Howard Gay, late managing editor of the *Tribune*, is engaged in gathering materials for the life of Horace Greeley.

—The Colonel Towles, or Towel, who figured in the Frankfort Convention of Kentucky secessionists, acknowledged that he had been in the Federal service, but was now "ashamed of the buttons." If the buttons could speak, what would they have to say?

—Henry Ward Beecher appears in a card explaining how it is that his sermons continue to appear in the *Independent*, a paper with which he has no further connection. It seems a small surplus had accumulated in the office, which he did not think he had a right to control. That "small surplus" lasts an amazingly long time.

—The rebel General James R. Chalmers has addressed a letter to the Hon. Reverdy Johnson, expressing his approval of the course of that Senator in voting to pass the reconstruction bill over the President's veto, and counseling the Southern people to accept the conditions imposed by that act. We are afraid the South is a dead adder. It will not listen to the voice of the Chalmers.

—Senator Orris S. Ferry, of Connecticut, who commenced his official career on Monday, was born at Bethel, and is now forty-four years of age. He graduated at Yale College in 1844, and was admitted to the bar in 1846. He was an Old Bedford, Mass., has voted, under no circumstances, to have the mills run less than eleven hours per day, and have at work at present about 100 of their usual force 1,100 operatives. Whig Member of the Thirty-sixth Congress, and during the war entered as Colonel of a Connecticut regiment, subsequently receiving promotion to the rank of Brigadier General.

—The remains of Lieutenant Reade, of the Third Ohio, were found buried in a cellar in Charleston, South Carolina, the other day. He was a prisoner in the hands of the rebels during the siege, escaped, was concealed by negroes in the cellar referred to, and there died. The negroes fearing punishment for concealing him, quietly buried the body, without a coffin.

—The Democrats of Connecticut have selected for their prominent candidates this spring men who can afford to pay tolerably heavy electioneering expenses. The wealth of five of these candidates, State and Congressional, is estimated as follows: James Ailing, $400 000; Alfred E. Edward B. Mosely, $300,000; Julius Hotchkiss, $300,000; Wm. H. Barnum, $500,000; Richard D. Hubbard, $250,000. Total, $2,500,000. Eight (Hotchkiss and Kilpatrick, who are joint manufacturers; M. Mosely is a retired merchant, and Mr. Hubbard is a lawyer. The Democratic party always proposed to go for the "millions," but we never saw so practical an illustration of the thing before.

—The Troy *Times* of Saturday has the following: "Rumors were current in the street on Friday, that L. W. Jerome, of New York, had failed. The fact is, as we learn from a source altogether likely to be well informed, that Mr. Jerome has lost within a short period about $1,000,000, by the decline in English mail stock. But as he has a balance of quite $2,000,000 on 'the right side of the ledger,' himself, creditors and acquaintances are quite easy. While the decline was going on in Pacific Mail, Mr. Jerome was the loser of some $100,000 in bonds, stolen from the safe in his office."

—A. T. Stewart has sailed for Paris, as one of the commissioners of the great exposition.

—Senor Romero, the Mexican Minister, is about to marry Mrs. Sackett, of Washington.

—Miss Louisa Pyne is singing at the London morning popular concerts.

—Hon. Isaac E. Holmes, a prominent South Carolina politician, died in Charleston on the 26th ultimo. He served a short time in the United States Senate, succeeding Hugh S. Legare.

—Paris has been a good deal amused by a quarrel between two actresses of the Varieties Theater, M'lle Schneider and M'lle Silly. The latter carried her grievances into the newspapers, and was discharged from the company. Served her right, She shouldn't have been so silly.

—The Sultan is expected in England next summer, subsequent to his visit to Paris. If he goes to the London docks he will have a chance to enjoy more Sublime Port than he ever had in Constantinople.

—The *Courier des Etats Unis*, which is made responsible for the story, says that President Johnson has lately changed his habits, filled the library of the White House with books, especially French books, and taken to reading, and that his favorite authors are Montesquieu and Paul de Kock.

—Gen. Neal Dow, of Maine law celebrity, is said to be in very delicate health.

—Mr. Arthur J. Peabody, nephew of the eminent philanthropist and London banker, George Peabody, has purchased an interest in the publishing house of Charles Scribner & Co., and is admitted to a partnership in the same.

—The nomination of Bogy, Commissioner of Indian Affairs, was not acted upon by the Senate, at the late session. It is expected the President will renew it. Does Mr. Johnson think he can frighten the red-skin by sending a "bogy" after him?

—The golden wedding of Samuel F. Reed, of Granville, Mass., was celebrated on the 14th ult., Mr. Reed being 75 years old and his wife 72. He has four brothers and two sisters living, whose combined ages amount to 450 years, or an average of 75 years each.

—Robert Toombs, it seems, has quietly returned to Georgia, having determined to test the clemency of the Government. Alluding to his return from Cuba, the Atlanta *Opinion* canstically says: "It is difficult to divine why Mr. Toombs ever left the country. While it is true that he did more to procure secession than any other man in the State, it is likewise true that after secession was accomplished he did less than any other man to sustain the revolution he had wrought."

—Mrs. E. Oakes Smith prints a conversation between herself and Mr. Willis, which is the best apology or defense of himself that we have ever met, and from which we extract the following:

"I imagine, Mr. Willis, you have never quite done your genius justice—you have never been quite enough in earnest, pardon me, to accomplish all you are capable of doing."

"There you do me more than justice. I have really been a very diligent man, and have made the best of myself. From the first I weighed my capacity and estimated what I was able to perform; I have kept within my limits, and made the most of the field in which I am best capable of moving."

THE *Tribune* takes up the Washington *Chronicle's* suggestion that the States should build houses in Washington for their Senators and Representatives and disposes of it thus: "We can't suppose that the States are yet ready to 'embellish the National capital,' thus 'adding to its wealth and importance,' by building mansions for their Senators. It strikes us that they may better pay some of their heavy debts."

CHURCH AND STATE.—Baron Ricasoli, Italian Prime Minister and as worthy successor of Cavour as can be found, tried the experiment of separating Church and State in the new kingdom of which Victor Emanuel is sovereign. The project has not answered well. The State finds itself opposed by a very bad Church and the Church finds itself in a very bad state without secular supervision of spiritual policy and intrigue.

The Treasury.

THE PUBLIC DEBT.—The following is the official statement of the public debt of the United States on the 1st of March, 1867:

DEBT BEARING COIN INTEREST.

5 per cent. bonds	$198,004,350 00
6 per cent. bonds of 1867 and 1868	15,679,141 83
6 per cent. bonds, 1881	285,745,400 00
6 per cent. 5-20 bonds	904,829,600 00
Navy Pension Fund	12,000,000 00
	$1,461,855,298 80

DEBT BEARING CURRENCY INTEREST.

6 per cent. bonds	$ 12,922,000 00
3-year compound interest notes	141,308,830 00
7-year 7-30 notes	672,798,050 00
	$ 787,028,880 00
Matured debt not presented for payment	14,576,469 07

DEBT BEARING NO INTEREST.

U. S. notes	$376,235,626 00
Fractional currency	29,044,722 32
Gold certificates of deposit	18,370,180 00
	$424,126,528 32
Total debt	$2,690,587,289 19
Amount in Treasury,	
coin	$107,271,031 12
Amount in Treasury, currency	52,952,268 27
	$160,223,299 39
Amount of debt, less cash in Treasury	$2,530,363,889 80

The above statement exhibits that the debt bearing coin interest has increased $44,709,650 since the publication of the February statement. The debt bearing currency interest has increased $32,643,860 since that time. The matured debt not presented for payment is less by $1,214,-767 24- and the debt bearing no interest has decreased $8,067,275 40. A comparison with the February statement exhibits that the total debt, less the amount of cash in the Treasury, has decreased $12,585,858 76. The amount of coin in the Treasury has increased $9,916,427 43, and the amount of currency in the same has increased $7,483,180 69. Total increase of cash in the Treasury vaults, $17,399,608 12.

Pennsylvania Railroad Company.

John Hulme, Esq., has addressed a letter to the stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad in reference to his defeat as a director, at the late election. The essential portions are as follows: On Saturday last, I was informed for the first time, that there would be an opposition to my election. On the day of the late election it appeared that a well arranged and closely conc